

75 Letters and items about ARTHUR TREMAYNE, 13th Light Dragoons

Transcriptions from photographs of diary pages provided by:- Ms. Roberta Goldwater, Discovery Museum, NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE. NE1 4JA

INTRODUCTION:-

Lieutenant-Colonel Arthur Tremayne DL: MP, JP. Arthur Tremayne was born at New St, Spring Gardens, London on 15 May, 1827. He was educated at Eton for whom he rowed in 1845 before being commissioned with the 13th Light Dragoons on 11 April, 1846. He was promoted to Captain on 4 April 1851.

Early Service

Captain Tremayne served in the United Kingdom in command of E Troop, which deployed near Edinburgh, in York, Hampton Court, Nottingham, Coventry and finally Chichester from where he embarked in Monarchy on 12 May 1854 with three officers, 40 other ranks and 45 horses of E Troop under command. 44 of these horses arrived safely in the Bosphorus on 9 June, though they were unfit for patrols.

Crimea Campaign

After sailing to Varna, he marched to Devna where he came under command of Lord Cardigan. On arrival at Eupatoria on 16 September 1854 he patrolled with Lord Cardigan and came into contact with some 100 cossacks. Captain Tremayne fought at ALMA on 20 September 1854 and two days later was sent on an extraordinary errand by Lord Lucan. The Light Cavalry deployed down a deep sandy lane for about 4 miles to a broad road leading from SEBASTOPOL to Simpheropol. They passed a perilous night, unprotected by infantry, before rejoining the Army at dawn. At daybreak on 24 September 1854, which was preceded by a night when they were "stood to" throughout the darkness near Katcha, they marched on the flank towards the south of SEBASTOPOL - noting much evidence of Russians' accelerated retreat. On 25 September, E Troop assisted in the capture of BALAKLAVA and remained there until 24 October.

In the morning on 25 October 1854 the Russians began to remove captured guns from the redoubts and this was visible to Lord Raglan but not to Lord Lucan nor to Cardigan. Lord Lucan was ordered by Raglan to prevent the enemy taking the guns. Out of a total strength of 673 all ranks in the Light



Brigade, the 13th Light Dragoons mustered Captain Tremayne plus 7 brother officers and 123 ORs, of whom only 61 survived. Although, during The Charge, Captain Tremayne's horse was shot from under him, his second-in-command, Lieutenant P Smith, was the only officer to ride throughout the charge and come back on his original horse when he remustered with 14 Other Ranks of the Regiment. Also in Captain Tremayne's troop was Lance-Sergeant J Malone, who won the VC.

In Nov 1854 the survivors were subject to a severe storm, but Captain Tremayne was on board ship recovering from cholera. On rejoining the Regiment, Captain Tremayne was temporarily in command in early December, when the Regiment marched from the heights of Inkerman to Kadikoi for winter encampment. This was a difficult march because the horses were suffering from lack of food. Only 38 horses were fit for duty. Sickness among the men was due to the terrible winter and lack of fuel and clothing. On 19 Feb 1855 the Regiment was ordered to assemble for reconnaissance duties and could only muster 5 mounted men compared with 70 men and 28 horses in December.

On 5 May 1856 the Regiment sailed from Constantinople arriving at Portsmouth on 27 May.

Other than December 1855 when Captain Tremayne commanded the Regiment, he was mainly in command of E Troop from April 1851, when he trained it in the United Kingdom, until May 1856 when the survivors disembarked at Marchwood after 2 years active service in Crimea.

Undoubtedly he demonstrated, through personal example a very high standard of leadership. He commanded mutual respect. Of his men he wrote "All through the campaign the men behaved very well. They were at one time half starved, badly dressed, and hard worked. Cholera, too, and fever, very often amongst them. Not one hardly, if ever, heard more than the average grumble of the British Soldier. They were right good fellows.". Of the Charge he wrote "The men behaved splendidly. The last I heard before I went down (his horse being shot from under him) was one man saying to his neighbour 'Come on; Don't let those 17th Lancers get ahead of us'".

Therefore it is not surprising, that at BALACLAVA, from Captain Tremayne's Troop his second-in-command, Lieutenant P. Smith was the only officer of the Regiment to reach the objective on his original charger and L/Sgt Malone was to receive the first regimental VC.

Captain Tremayne received the following awards for his brilliant services throughout the campaign:

A Brevet Majority
Order of the Knight of the Legion of Honour
Order of the Mejidie

HOME SERVICE AND COMMAND

On the Regiment's return to the United Kingdom it was reviewed by Queen Victoria at Gosport on 29 May 1856 and then they embarked for Ireland, where Brevet Major Tremayne (August 1856) commanded troops at Ballinacollig, Cork, Clogheen, Cahir and Belfast. It was during this tour that he married in Dublin on 22 September 1858 Lady Francis Margaret Hely-Hutchinson, the second daughter of John, third Earl of Donoughmore. On 31 May 1859 he was promoted to substantive Major before leaving, in the autumn, for Edinburgh, where the Regiment undertook Royal Duties for Queen Victoria. In February 1860 he was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel and commanded the Regiment until 24 May 1861 when he retired from the Army to Cornwall.

IN RETIREMENT AT CARCLEW

Two years after Lady Tremayne's premature death in 1866 he inherited from his maternal Uncle, Sir Charles Lemon Bt. the stately home of CARCLEW with 230 acres of parkland with 150 fallow deer, a farm, extensive woodlands and an oriental garden. In the dining hall of this old warrior, who described the Charge of the Light Brigade where his horse was shot from under him, as an 'an ordinary incident in warfare', hung mementos of swords, sabres, pistols and a pair of Cavalry Boots - one with a heel missing. It had been shot off in The Charge!

In 1870 he married Emma Penelope, the daughter of the Rev. T Philpotts. Although at times he had a very brusque manner, savouring the old military officer he was, he was, at heart, the kindest and gentlest of men. He was a real English Gentleman and beloved by all. As a landlord he was renowned for his consideration which he showed to his tenants. In addition to being a prominent landlord he was a very active member of the Community.

He was:-

- A Member of the Council of the Royal Cornwall Infirmary
- The President of the Royal Cornwall Sailors' Home
- A Member of the Royal Cornwall Agricultural Association
- A Director of Falmouth Savings Bank
- The Director of King Harry Steam Ferry Company
- A County Councillor (Mylor Division)
- Member of Parliament for Truro Sep 1878 to Apr 1880
- High Sheriff of Cornwall in 1871
- Member of Truro Cathedral Building Committee

In his memory in Truro Cathedral there is a marble plaque, which read:

TO THE GLORY OF GOD
AND IN MEMORY OF
ARTHUR TREMAYNE OF CARCLEW
LATE LIEUTENANT COLONEL
13TH LIGHT DRAGOONS
ONE OF THE FIRST MEMBERS OF THE
TRURO DIOCESAN CONFERENCE
AND OF THE BUILDING COMMITTEE

OF THIS CATHEDRAL CHURCH
BORN MAY 15TH 1827
DIED NOVEMBER 14TH 1905
AGED 78

MARGRAVE LIST:-

Tremayne, Arthur (1827-1905), Capt, 13th Lt Drgns, p.50. b, May 15, 1827, s, John Hearde Tremayne, MP, & Caroline Matilda, d, Sir William Lemon, MP.

F/c, Sept 11, 1846; Lt, Oct 29, 1847; Capt, April 4, 1851; Bvt Maj, Dec 12, 1854; Maj, May 31, 1859; Lt Col, Feb 21, 1860.

Cr War, May 15 to June 19, 1854, p.o abrd the Monarchy; June 19 to Aug 31, 1854, Bulgaria; Sept 1 to 14, 1854, to the Cr; Sept 15, 1854 to Nov 1855, Cr; Sept 8, 1855, GO 4, acting as F.O. & to draw FA&F w.e.f July 6, 1855; Oct 1855, to Eupatoria, abrd the Cambria; Oct & Nov, 1855, Eupatoria; Nov 28 to 30, abrd the Jason, to Turkey; Dec 1855, l/abs (did not rjn the regt in the east);

"Soreback Reconn." to the Dobruja Marshes on the Danube, June 1854, M'Kenzie's Farm, the Alma, Balaklava, Siege, pres, the Chernaya, Eupatoria.

Rtrd, May 24, 1861. MP, Truro, 1878. m, 1) Sept 22, 1858, Lady Frances, d, John Hely-Hutchinson, 3rd Earl of Donoughmore, HP, PC; 2), 1870, Emma Penelope, d of the Rev Thomas Phillpotts. Res. Carclew, Cornwall. d, Nov 14, 1905.

ODM: Lgn d'Honn, 5 Cl, O. Medj, 5 Cl, Cr Med (ABS), TCM.

TREMAYNE diary ex Goldwater (Typescript from photograph copies - 77 pages.)

Saturday 13th May 1854. Arthur sailed from Portsmouth.

Letter 1. May 24th off the island of Pantellaria.

TO Ma. - - - I fired a shot at you from Gibraltar - but much doubt its hitting you as I entrusted it to the care of a villainous looking Spaniard from whom I bought a boat-load of mackerel for the men and by whom we sent all our letters on shore. In case you don't get it, I shall repeat that we had a splendid run to Gibraltar arriving on Sunday morning May 21st. After I had despatched my letter, it came on calm, and we had full opportunity of examining the Straights. I had a boat lowered, and went on board the Culloden which was near us; and paid the Major and his party a visit. They had just lost a horse from congestion of the lungs - sickly when put on board. We got out of the Straights of Gibraltar on Sunday evening, and up to this time (Wednesday morning May 24th) have had a 5 knot breeze from the West propelling us slowly onwards. We are now within 2 or 3 miles of the African Coast, a little west of Algiers. We can plainly descry the villages &c., along the coast. We have varied our games since we left the Atlantic by hunting Turtle, fishing for flying fish &c., with little success. Should we continue in

this same vein of luck, we shall be in Malta about Monday next. I shall post this there.

Saturday 27th. I counted my chickens prematurely for on Wednesday night the wind veered round to the East, dead against us, and we have been tacking up towards the Balearic isles and back again making scarcely 30 miles a day in actual distance, and tonight it has come on very squally. One peculiarity in this sea is the amount of lightning: it goes on all round the horizon at the same time. We saw the Harbinger this morn, with our headquarters on board, about 6 miles behind us; but have since beat her out of sight. At this rate we shall not be in Malta for another week, as we are now running towards Sardinia.

Monday 29th. 9 p.m. Yesterday morn - after a very stormy night, the wind set in from the N.W. putting us along our right course, and we expect to be in Malta tomorrow about Midday. Yesterday we passed close by a small French Steamer laden with cavalry from Algiers. The meeting was enthusiastic. Today we shall be in Malta together. I expect only to stay there a few hours.

Wednesday 31st. This morning I boarded Jenyn's ship. The Orinoco with the 97th on board, are now towing us into Malta. Destination supposed to be Varna.

Letter 2. Malta Harbour June 1st.

- - - The Orinoco towed us in, and will again tow us to the top of the Archipelago. I have been onshore to the General and Admiral. Ld Raglan is writing for cavalry and infantry; and we expect to go to Varna; but have to call at Gallipoli for more orders. Silistria is supposed to be taken. The Duke is at Varna with the Light Division, and it is supposed we shall join him. We are all in high spirits. Jenyns's ship is with us in tow. I send this into Malta by two friends who have come out to see me. I have one troop horse very ill. The 97th have lost a good many.

Letter 3. Sea of Marmora. June 7th.

- - - I went on shore at Malta to see the General's office and reported myself; and then to the Admiral, Houston Stewart, a very jolly old fellow who gave me all I wanted. The houses in Malta to judge from his are palaces; immense rooms with every precaution against heat. He said Ld Raglan was writing by every post to hurry on the Cavalry and Infantry, and that he expected we should have to go up to Varna; and that the division would be formed at Paravaty between that and Shumla. He also thought Silistria had fallen to the Russians. He ordered the Orinoco to tow me and Jenyns to St. Giorgio d'Abora, an island at the entrance of the Gulf of Athens. There they left us at 8.m. on Sunday. They had sealed orders (the 97th) but Athens was supposed to be their destination. We left Malta at 5 p.m. just as the Hydaspes with the 42nd (Rollo's regiment) steamed in with the Northumberland Cavalry transport in tow. On Saturday we came in sight of Greece and went close in to Cape Matapan and Malea going between Cerigo and the mainland. The Coast was ver fine; some high mountains still had snow on them. We were frying hot. On Sunday we were cast off by the Orinoco, and ever since have been threading our way through countless islands, not half of which are marked on the map; they are generally very picturesque and from the watch fires at night, and the look of the boats by day, I should say abounded in Pirates and Smugglers. We are now Monday 5th between Chios and Lemnos in a dead

calm. It has been furiously hot the last 2 days. Tonight we had the boats down and bathed - an immense luxury, only attainable in a perfect calm. I threw a trooper overboard this morning inflammation the cause of its death. With that exception, all my family, men and horses, are quite well. My orders are to call at Gallipoli for further instructions. We have passed a lot of French transports. The weather is lovely and the colour of the sea beats anything I have seen in the Mediterranean, such a dark blue! Tuesday 6th about 1 a.m. I was awoke by a Steamer hailing us, she was come out to tow transports. She took us in tow, and this morning found us between Tenedos and the land in Besika Bay, steaming thro' a fleet of transports, store ships &c. and we saw a Turkish flag for the first time floating on a fort. The Melbourne (Steam) tells us that all the troops are hastening up to the Black Sea. We hope to be at Gallipoli about 8 tonight, so I shall then get orders where to land. The weather continues fearfully hot. We have crept ahead of the Negotiation, and I suppose I am the first of the 13th as yet. I hope we shall get towed thro' the Sea of Marmora, and well into the Black Sea. The Dardanelles are beautiful. June 7th. I went on shore last night at Gallipoli and saw Sir R. England. He has sent us on to Scutari, where we shall be tonight. I saw Bradford and Neville, a friend of Boscawen, there. They have three camps there, 45,000 men, 30,000 of which are French. Sir G. Brown's Division is at Varna. Sir R. England's at Gallipoli. I have to report myself to Gen. Estcourt. Sea of Marmora. June 7th. Wednesday.

Letter 4. Constantinople, June 8th.

- - - I sent a letter on shore this morning, but add another Scrap to say we have orders to go up to Varna where the Light Division already are. We shall sail tomorrow morning, or tonight. One of the sailors was slightly attacked by small pox yesterday. He has been sent on Shore, and we are not able to go on Shore without orders so I fear we shall not see much of this beautiful place. Rollo's regt. has just come in, and is lying close to us. The English Camp at Scutari looks very much like another Chobham. The guards are farther away. The Constantinople night is perfectly lovely. I sent Gen. Estcourt's letter to him by a Deputy Qr. Master General that came on board this morning. James Molesworth is at Varna, so I shall take him on. They seem to believe here that the Russians are retreating, and that it is possible we never see them. We got a very sudden squall yesterday in the Sea of Marmora. We are all right, men and horses. Ld. Lucan, our General of Division is here. Cardigan at Varna. Sir G. Brown is Commandant at the latter place.

Letter 5. Coolalie. June 11th, 1854.

- - - I wrote you a miserable scrap from Constantinople. I was very sorry not to receive any letters from England there, but I got a capital packet of newspapers. The postal arrangements do not seem over good. Friday morning at 6 a.m. I sailed up to Coolalie, and disembarked. It is an immense barracks upon the shores of the Bosphorus, about 4 miles from Constantinople, in a lovely situation. Lots of our artillery are there also. Ld. Lucan, Gen. Scarlett, and most of the Cavalry Staff are there. The first idea was to form a camp at Tekia Shelepi near the south of the Bosphorus but yesterday the idea was given up and tomorrow we all go on to Varna, Cavalry, guards and all, so this place and Scutari will be left empty. The 17th, 28th are

already gone on. I am the first of the 13th. Jenyns came yesterday. I re-embark tomorrow. I am lucky in knowing P.W. Paule, Morris, Connolly and others of the staff here; and above all, Col. Dupuis of the artillery, my Tutor's brother. Some news from Varna must have made this sudden change. They say Silistria is tottering; and Sir G. Brown wants reinforcements before we can check any advance upon Shumla.

The barrack at Coolalie is a magnificent building from a distance but contains more vermin and filth than 15,000 Mavagilpeys wrapped up in a small space. I took an immense room for myself and Tub, and tried to have it cleaned, but only awoke the fleas, etc. We are in mess with the men, and find our Canteens very useful. I and all the rest are very glad that we soon shall have tents instead of our room. The men have a room as long as Half-Moon St., and high in proportion. Men and horses are all well. I went today to the Camp at Scutari and saw Quin, and C. Cooks. C. Cooks was very well. Galignain [*Galignani's Messenger*] is a capital newspaper. Young Strangways is here with the Artillery.

Letter 6. Varna, June 14th, 1854.

- - - We re-embarked at Coolalie yesterday morning; and were towed up here by a Steamer arriving about noon today. All the Bosphorus was very pretty and the Coast afterwards sometimes very fine. All the Duke's division have come up today, and have been landing all the afternoon. We are waiting for horse boats, which are now engaged with the Artillery. We begin tomorrow morning. I was on shore today. Varna is one shade better than Gallipoli, and today looked odd enough. The Guards and Artillery were landing, and some French troops. Lots of men of war, men from both nations hurrying about. Staff officers riding in all directions, and men and officers in from the Camp foraging and marketing. There are two camps, one about 15 miles off towards Shumla where the Eighth [*Light*] Division is, to which we shall be attached, when the whole of this regiment arrives; and another near Devna, 2 miles from here, where we go tomorrow, and begin our Chobham life again. Lt. Cardigan has patrolled for miles, and cannot see a Cossack anywhere. Today the rumour is that the Russians are retreating from Silistria. There are only two of our transports in, Jenyns' and mine. About 40,000 men are now here. Ours under Sir G. Brown, and the French under Canrobert. I shall be able to give James Molesworth his letter very shortly, as he is up at the advanced camp. The letters from England are terribly uncertain, but I dare say I shall soon get one from you. I saw Gipps and Drummond today. C. Cocks disembarked this afternoon. There is a good deal of trees scattered about this part of the country, and fine plains, seemingly well-watered. Snipes and game in plenty. The gigantic Himalaya landed her cargo, the 5th Drag. Gds. today, only 12 days from England. I did not see Gen. Estcourt in Scutari, but I suppose he will be up here soon. This day year we marched into Chobham. "Tempora mutantur". We shall be very comfortable in our tents, and have a capital Commissariat officer attached to us, an old friend. I have reduced my little kit again, and leave everything but what I actually can't do without in store here.

P.S. I'll make an omelette against McEwan; as to chops, steaks and stews, Soyer couldn't beat us.

Letter 7. Camp near Varna. June 19th.

- - - Paper is scarce, so excuse these scraps. I re-embarked at Coolalie on the 13th, and on the 15th dis-embarked in Varna bay in streams of rain. We formed our own camp that evening by the Sea, and stayed there all the next day, drying our thngs and putting our kits in order. The Navy lieutenant who came to assist at the disembarkation, was a son of Canon Rodgers, he is in the Arethusa. On the 17th, we marched about 4 miles to this Camp, where are the Guards and Highlanders, some Artillery horse and foot, and the 5th Dragoon Gds. It s on a beautiful plain with a large lake of good water near it; about 3 miles from Varna. Half a mile to the north is a French camp, and 4 miles over the hills in the same direction, Zouaves; and Chasseurs de Vincennes. Our Lt. Division (to which we belong) is at Devna, and Aladine, some 12 miles off, the Cavalry in front. We shall join it when our ships are all in. The fleets, English, French and Turkish, are 6 miles north of Varna Bay. Omar Pasha has pushed 120 guns, and a strong force from Shumla towards Silistria. The Russians have 5,000 men in an entrenched position this side of the later place. But our engineers have thrown 6 weeks' provision into it in spite of them. Sir De Lacy Evans' division from Scutari, and Sir R. England's from Gallipoli are coming up. The French have men in Adrianople, and troops landing every day at Varna. Ld. Raglan was here on Friday, but is now again at Scutari. He still thinks we shall not draw our swords. The weather is very hot, and we all mess outside our tents, and fight for the shade. Eggs, cherries, and milk are our luxuries. 1 lb. of meat, some rice, and a pint of porter per diem our ration. We are all well and cheery. The Duke has paid us several visits, and says we have landed better than any as yet. We are in excellent order for work. There are snipe, hares and doves to shoot, and trout to catch. A splendid country, not cultivated, and almost without inhabitants. Tell John that the grand lounge in the camp is Astley's tent, where Gipps and Co. congregate. Their friends may like to know that J. Molesworth, Paynter and c. Cocks are flourishing. I am going up today to see the Lt. Division after seeing if I can find any letters from England. The horses do not suffer as yet from the open air, but the jackals and wild dogs at night frighten them a little. Mine are sensible. We took naturally to our camp. Chobham did us all good.

Letter 8. Camp near Devna. June 24th, 1854.

- - - We are here 9 miles ahead of the Lt. Division at Aladin, and the advance guard of the army. The whole of the Lt. Cavalry is to be here. We marched up on Vedn [*Devna*] last, and hot it was. We reached Aladin, a beautiful camp, where the lake narrows, and vegetation very luxuriant all round. This is a large plain country, with a nice little river running below us, quite big enough to bathe in. The villages, miserable as they are, are now entirely deserted, through fear of the Russians. The few people who come near us, come from a distance with eggs, cherries, goat's milk, etc. There are mills on the stream, and we keep the millers hard at work day and night. We have an in-lying picket, one Captain, one sub., 240 men and a patrol for each regt. every day. A party of the 8th have just returned from a voyage of discovery. They got within 23 miles of Silistria and heard the firing. They failed in their purpose, however, namely to discover water. They were out 4 days, and had to dig for water for themselves and horses. When not on duty here, we race our pack horses, hunt wild dogs, and shoot. Pigeons are the chief game. Eagles, vultures and stork are not uncommon, and little jerboa run across our path

every now and then. Cardigan is here, and is very quiet and civil. Ld. Lucan came up yesterday, but has gone back to Varna again. To get to Silistria, we shall have to go round a considerable way to get water, perhaps by Shumla. The weather is awfully hot, but this camp remains very healthy. Our horses have arrived in much better condition, and with fewer casualties than any other coprs. Ly. Errol is at Aladin with her husband, and the paymaster of the 8th has his wife here. I'd say, quite the last place for a woman, and when we go on, what is to become of them I can't say. Since Malta, I have never received a single letter, and many others are in the same predicament. The arrangements at Constantinople are very bad.

Letter 9. Silistria. July 5th, 1854.

- - - I have had a dip in the Danube. On Sunday, June 25th, the news reached Devna that the Russians has raised the siege of this place, and Cardigan took a squadron of us, and one of the 8th to find out where they were gone. I had just come off picquet, and within an hour we were off. Last night was the first night since then, I have had my clothes off. We march without tents, with just a change of things, and a water cloak to lie on at night. The first day was to Hamioghon Borparglik, through a wooded country. There we patrolled all Monday, and at night were turned out for an alarm of Cossacks, which was false. On Tuesday, we reached Rasakak, and Wednesday Musabeg. I was just congratulating myself on the prospect of a good night's rest, when Cardigan sent for me and told me the Russians were said to be in force at Revaron, and that he wished to find out about them, and offered me the duty, rather a ticklish one. At 2 a.m. on Thursday I started with a Turkish patrol, and was at it 15 hours. At Malimontginor, a Turkish soldier came to me in alarm to say that the Russians were at Revaron, and I proceeded cautiously in that direction, feeling my way on both flanks. I tracked a large body of horse towards Custendji, came upon them, and found them to be Barki [*Bashi*] Bazouks, but no Russians near. They were, I found, on the Wallachian bank of the river, near Silistria, making as if for Kirsova. The Barkis took me for a Russian at first and wished to keep me, but I declined the offer, and got back, having done the duty much to the chief's satisfaction. On Friday we all came on to Malimontginor, and Saturday to Rapova [*Rassova*], to the Danube, which is as broad as the Thames at Greenwich. The Cossacks were exactly opposite to us all Sunday, and at night we were turned out for an alarm of a boat, heavily armed, which came to nothing. Monday brought us to Altona, the first inhabited place we had seen, every other village being totally uninhabited - and except one old man at Bazarjik, we have not seen one soul, except Barkis. We have marched through immense plains, without a tree in sight, or a bit of shade, steering by fountains, making sometimes 30 miles a day. Commissariat finds Barley for the horses, and biscuits and salt meat for us. Yesterday we had a long day into this place, and passed a bridge the Russians made to retreat over, and then destroyed. They are now opposite us, about 40,000 strong. We go back tomorrow, having obeyed Ld. Raglan's order in finding them out. This place is much more battered than I expected. It could only have lasted 3 days more. We have had the first look at the Muscov, who I expect is now retreating. Our army was ready a month ago to come up, but the French were not, though I suppose the papers gave Ld. Raglan the blame. Jenyns Smith and Jervis are with us here. Cardigan is a very good fellow. Dupplin, his A.D.C., I knew in England, and Burghersh, who is with

him, is a regular trump. I send this into Varna by him. At Musabeg in the night, some native ponies broke loose among our lines, and spread a panic among the horses, who broke loose by dozens. 6 of ours were away 24 hours. 6 of the 8th and 3 of their chargers also, etc., etc. They charged among us as we lay on the ground, and nearly killed one man by trampling. We have lost 2 horses on the road. We are in utter ignorance of everything at Varna or in England. We hope to find letters at Devna, where I suppose we shall be by next Sunday. It has been a very amusing and exciting business. Eagles and vultures, storks and wild fowl abound. Tortoises and lizards swarm. Wild dogs take the biscuit from under our heads at night. As to mosquitos and other little things, Oh!!! I am writing this on my face on the ground. Cardigan has just heard that an armistice is signed, a flag of truce is going on here. We go tomorrow.

Letter 10. Devna Camp. July 15th.

- - - I wrote a letter from Silistria which I think you will have got ere this arrives, as it was sent in Ld. Raglan's bag. Burghersh carried it so long in his pocket that he has re-enveloped it. We left Silistria on the 6th, and found the road all the way to Shumla very pretty, and the villages inhabited. We reached Shumla on the 8th, and stayed there until the 10th. It is the best Turkish town I have seen, and we fully appreciated a dinner in a locanda, after a fortnight in the bush. We returned to this Camp on the morning of the 11th in a most magnificent thunderstorm. Our horses have come the distance very well; and we have had scarcely any sickness among the men. All the Lt. Divn: are up here now; and the Duke's divn: at Aladin. I was there yesterday, and dined with C. Cocks, who is taken home by the brevet. J. Molesworth is here with his regt., and is all right. There are all sorts of rumours about moving. Some say Bucharest others Trebejonde [*Trebizond*] others Custendji and others Trieste to stop Nicholas if he marches upon Vienna. In fact nobody knows anything except Ld. Raglan. I found 4 letters from you and one from M. here when I returned and 2 newspapers. Galissmani [*Galighani's Messenger*], the Observer, or some weekly paper and "Bell" are the best paper to send occasionally. July 16th. A post in this morn! no letters for me. All sorts of rumours of peace also. Major Stirling came to see me yesterday. He found me with my legs higher than my head as I have cut my shins &c, but I shall soon be all right.

(Extract from Col. Stirling's letter to Ht.)

On Thursday I rode over to Devna to enquire after yr brother. I called first on Lt. Col Le Marchant, an old friend of mine. He commands the 5th Drag: Gds, and told me that your brother was considered an excellent officer.

Letter 11. Devna Camp. July 22nd 1854.

- - - Since our return (from Silistria) Cardigan gave us (the patrol) a week's rest, and since that we have been having field days nearly every morning at 5. The weather is blazing hot in the middle of the day. Will you send 5£ to my trumpeter's wife for me? "Jessie McDonald Howarth, wife of Trumpeter Wm. Howarth, 13th Lt.D. Care of John Howarth, 12 Lower Symonds St. Sloane

Square, Chelsea, London". The talk now is that Anapa is to be taken immediately. It is to the east of Sebastopol, 240,000 [40,000?] men French and English are to go with the Fleet. But we know nothing certain. It will take about a fortnight's siege they say. Sir G. Brown is away in the Black Sea with some engineers reconnoitring something. Sebastopol will not we think be tried till next spring. The French are much behind us in preparations especially Commissariat, and the Turks hate them; for their cool behaviour in laying hands on everything.

Letter 12. Jenibazar [*YeniBazar*]. July 30th 1854.

- - - We broke up the camp at Devna upon Thursday, on acct. of several cases of sickness having occurred there, something of the nature of cholera. It was chiefly among the Infantry (Light Division) who were over the river from us, but it was deemed advisable for all to move. We marched only a short way on Thursday to Cottibe [*Kottlubei*], and came on here on Friday leaving the 17th at Jeretipe. The 8th and 11th are here with us, and some horse arty. This is the road we returned from Silistria by, when out on patrol and we halted here one day. We are only 10 miles from Shumla, so it [if] we stay here, we shall be better off for supplies than at Devna. I think however we shall soon go back to the river we left as the supply of water here is very uncertain. The infantry are still busy at making siege implements but the intended point of attack is still a mystery. The 4th Dn.Gds. and the Inniskilling are *on dit*, going to Adrianople, where I suppose they will quietly remain all the winter. If there is anything to be done I trust we shall go on; as the brigade is in good health and order, and has now been some time together. I never saw anybody more inclined to grumble at everything than A.B.- We have had a regular hurricane succeeded by thunder and 5 hours rain last night which has cooled everything.

August 1st. I dined with Cardigan last night, and he is to forward this for me. Varna and Adrianople will be very likely the Cavalry's winter quarters. One of his guests was one of our 2 ladies, a Mrs. Creswell, wife of a Capt. in the 11th. She appeared in a blue body and a scarlet flounce. Regimental colours and very striking. She is a sister of Gordon Cummings and is equally mad. Some Cossacks have nabbed 100 Baski Bazouks near Rabada, nothing else has been done lately. This is a very pretty place. The lowlands teeming with grain and the hills which are lofty covered covered with plum, pear, peach, apricot and wild grapes. There is nothing to shoot except a few quail, and an occasional hare, so I do not regret having sent my gun back to Scutari. The weather continues blazing hot, and after a march it is almost painful to put one's hand on the lace of your jacket it is burning hot. If we go into winter quarters, anywhere near the sea, I shall try to get a run to Smyrna, or Athens for a change, as we have not had at all a lazy life up to this time. Letters via Marseilles must have 3 stamps.

Letter 13. August 11th. Jenibazar (Lt Brigade Camp).

- - - The Brigade have been sick during the last fortnight. lots of dysentery and fever, which I trust is now disappearing. We had 50 men in hospital 2 days ago, but I have only lost one. The others are doing. A little excitement will do us good and by all accounts the Crimea is likely soon to show sport. The Fleet are in Baltschick Bay, and numerous transports. The rumour is that on the

15th the Army will begin to embark for Sebastopol, by which time the siege implements will be ready. If we do go there we shall take it before October, and have a good billet for the winter. They are losing from 18 to 25 men per diem at Varna, and the French more, amongst the shipping and soldiery. I went into Shumla last week, and inspected the fortifications. It is a basin of land, with high hills on 3 sides of it, and a fine plain on the 4th. The hills are teeming with fortifns. and bristling with guns, and the plain is covered with field-works and outposts. The Russians have wanted to take it 3 times. The bazaars there are very good, such a Babel as they are, Poles, Hungarians, Armenians, French, Italian & English. Mand [*Maude, George Ashley (1817-94), CB, Capt, RA*] of the Arty. bought a shawl for his wife, and found in the corner, "manufactured solely by Higginbottom Glasgow!!! We have had it about 110 in the tents lately; and yesterday a sirrocco came on, hot as a furnace, blowing the dust everywhere. I think another week will clear the hospitals. Thank God! I have been very well. Bagshaw's papers never arrive and Toote he is not paid for them. The rush for letters here wd amuse you. The night I slept in Shumla was the first time I had slept in a house sence Coolalie.

Letter 14. Jeni Bazaar. Augst 21st.

- - - Here we are in the same lines as when I last wrote - - Pray don't show my letters to all the quid-nuncs at St. S. Of course I don't mind an old friend like Mr. Way. The Times gives a good account of the Baski Bazouks dress of our fellows when off duty and I think we are terrible. What sane man wd go out shooting with Thermometer at 120 in blue cloth and gold lace as the French do, when he can wear a canvas suit and a wideawake and a turban as we do? On duty of course in regular. The horses backs suffered upon the patrol, but not so much as is represented. They are now fit again. People forget that it was the most severe work the English Cavalry has done for years. It was a succession of forced marches for 16 days. In the Peninsulars the Thermometers did not mount quite so high as here, and there was shade and water. Here, the horses when they came in, stood in the sun, and had to go a distance for water. There too there was wine and provisions and shelters for the men. Here we never saw a soul or inhabited houses for 7 days. We expect every day to move, but we know not where. I suppose Anapa will be attacked but it is getting late. The other divisions are I hear, getting more healthy. The Cholera has reached us, and every evening last week there were funeral parties from the brigade. We have only lost 6 men since we landed. The 17th have lost 16, and the other regts. about the same. The 5th Dn Gds. have lost between 30 and 40 and have moved into Varna. I think by degrees it is getting less. I have lost but one of my own troop. We are tired of this place, and are all anxiously expecting something to do. The weather is a shade cooler. 6 weeks more will I believe bring the cold weather. The nights now are bitter; I heap all my uniform upon me, and cd bear the portmanteau on top of that. Railway literature here wd command a sale; if anyone wishes to speculate let him bring out lots of shilling books, and some sherry. Cardigan works us pretty sharp. If Billy comes out send me a few books and some tea. General Cannon of the Turkish service has just been here and told Cardigan that the war is all over, the Emperor having haven given in on several points, but I don't believe the story. It seems however very certain that we shall not cross

sabres with the "Muscov" this autumn. Ld de Ros is going home rich [*sick?*]
We hear or see nothing of the other divisions now.

Letter 15. Devna. August 28th 1854.

- - - You will be surprised to see where I date this letter from, as our move was sudden. On Friday one of the Qrs. Mastr. Genl. department came out to Cardigan at Jenibazar with orders for us to march into Varna for embarking directly, for the Crimea we all suppose. Yesterday we marched to Jeritippe and on here today. This place seems quite like an old friend and the clear river looked refreshing to a degree having seen nothing of the sort since we left this place. Tomorrow we hear that we are to march upon Varna and embark the next day, but I sd fancy there wd be a delay of some short time, as Varna has not the conveniences for embarkation that we found at Portsmouth or Coolalie. The Choera was bad among us up to the time we left Jenibazar, indeed we lost one man yesterday at Jeritippe after a very short period of sickness. I have lost two men of my troop, as good dragoons as ever enlisted. Fancy the delightful pleasure of a bathe in the river today quite a new sensation. I am much obliged to you for the trouble you took about Mrs. Howarth (trumpeter's wife) as it saved her considerable trouble in waiting upon the War Office; and she is a sickly soul. What a mess Frank Lawley has made of life and with his talents it is a double pity. He was quite first-rate. I see Archdeacon Bd. is now Bp, of Ke. There cd be no better fellow, or a worse Bp. They tell us that the Crimean expedition is to be in quite light order, no portmanteau or packhorses, but I suppose we shall know more about it tomorrow, x (read below). The heavies wait for the 2nd lot. The Harbour is magnificent sight. Clouds of Transport and ships of war. The English have built commodious piers for embarking and altered the aspect of the place. Lots of tugs, and flat-bottomed boats simplify the proceeding. The troops were embarking with great regularity in every direction, and French and English going their way without any confusion or noise, save when we heard the emphatic language of some Connaught rangers or lively little Frenchmen. O Read next paper. Varna itself &c. &c.

x Varna August 31st. We arrived here on the 29th and found the Duke's division embarking. The Lt. division embarked yesterday. They are now going on with Sir D.L.Evans's and the Artillery and we expect to begin very early tomorrow in the Jason. Now read from first x. The heavies &c. Varna itself is no less changed. English and French names belong to the streets. The narrow streets filled "equipages militaires", ambulance carts, and artillery moving down to the sea. Orderlies, A.D.C's riding furiously; and in the Bazaars Generals and private soldiers mixed up in one glorious hash, and buying articles ranging from champagne to onions. The Cholera is on the decrease. Some say that Sebastopol is to fall directly - others that it will take a longtime. We are to take it. The Lt. Division of Infn open the ball. The 7th and 23rd leading. They say there is a great disaffection in the garrison, and loads of Poles ready to turn to our side at once. I think myself, if once a lodgement is effected, there will be no stopping our army. Ld. Raglan is in excellent spirits. We take 25,000. The French only 20,000 and the Turks 12,000. The Cavalry will not land until the guns and infantry have made a hole for them to widen. I expect we shall be back here shortly having entirely destroyed the place.
September 11th. We are off in the Jason directly.

Letter 16. Jason Steamer, 15 miles from Sebastopol. 13th Sepr. 1854.

- - - The Admiral's ship has just put up the signal that letters are going to England, so a line in great haste. We sailed from Varna on the 5th and rendezvoused in Battshick [*Baltshick*] Bay, where we formed into different divisions 2 times. We came up the Sea just out of sight of the Turkish coast, till yesterday when we anchored near Eupatoria and today have come as far as this, where we are anchored, and waiting for daylight to disembark. The sight is and has been magnificent. Fancy between 6 and 700 ships formed in different lines. The French, English & Turkish fleets sailing and steaming in advance and all round us, and the transports coming along in order. One steamer towing 2 sailing vessels. We have ships, from the Britannia 120, to a Danube boat for landing troops, and only drawing 3 feet of water. We are in a capital steamer, all the regt. except 20 horses and have just run into the Arabia and carried away our mainyard. The Coast seems fertile (we have been close in) but the natives seem very busy carting their goods inland. If they are not in a funk, they ought to be, as no doubt all the Steamers, such as the Himalaya, Simla &c. are taken for ships of war. Our war steamers such as the "Sidon" "Terrible" "Spitfire" "Retribution" &c. are cruising about looking very mischievous, whilst the Arethusa, Brittania and others are sailing along like magnificent swans. The Lt. division land first - then the Duke's. Then Sir D.L.Evan's, then Sir G. Cathcart's: and we are last in the line and to land by special signal. Each division has its flag: so every ship is known. We also have our numbers marked outside. We lost a man of Cholera today, and have 2 more ill. Before you get this Sebastopol will be taken. We are all in good spirits; and I assure you I go into action with the belief that the best armour is that described in the 91st Psalm.

Letter 17. (*written in pencil*) To John. Alma River. Sept. 21st.

- - - We landed on the 15th and have hard work ever since. We the 13th have been 3 times under fire; lost 3 horses, 5 men wounded. Yesterday a general action, and entire defeat of the Russians. The 13th were only under fire about 10 minutes, and lost nothing. The Russians lost 3 guns, 2 Generals, and fled after 3 hours. We lost about 96 officers, and 1800 killed and wounded. The English had the brunt of it. Rollo is all right. Astley shot in the throat. Gipps wounded in the head. Both well. Cust killed. We shall be in Sebastopol in no time. Love to Lr. Mr. and all. (Baring lost an arm).

Letter 18. Balaklava. Sepr 28th 1854.

- - - Here we are to the S.E. of Sebastopol, and thanks be I am safe as ever. I wrote J. a pencil note at midnight after the action at Alma, but had time for no more. We landed on the 16th (I think) for dates are getting vague, to the S.E. of Eupatoria, and had a 12 hours patrol upon landing. Next day we moved up to the front of the Army, and I had a 2 miles skirmish with 500 Cossacks, the most cowardly troops I can imagine. On the 19th the whole army marched in battle array to Boulganak, where we (the Cavalry and the H.A.) came up with the advance guard of the russians army, who retreated after ½ an hour, having lost 28 men killed and wounded; we losing 3 horses, and 5 men wounded. On the 20th we all moved in battle order 6 miles to the river Alma, an immense

position. We came upon a valley, one side of it gently sloping, with a river at the bottom, then a vineyard with walls and all sorts of impedimenta. The Russians had all these lined with skirmishers. Their side of the valley was steep, and abounding in knolls, positions for guns; and the top guns in position in permanent forts. Our first intimation was the Minie bullets round our heads, when we went off to the left to allow the infantry to deploy. Which they did and the Lt. Division and the Gds. marched down to the river, with a line of rifles in front as if they were at play. Every man who came out of the vineyard alive, having a bunch of grapes in his hand. The fire was very hot and fast, but their heavy artillery could not stop our infantry; and a cheer from the Highlanders sent them flying up the hill. We then crossed and got over the river with only a few shells breaking near us, and no damage done. Upon gaining the top the Highlanders were in the fort, our horse artillery on the ridge, playing upon the retreating columns of Russians and we only had to pick up a few prisoners. The loss on both sides was great, on the Russians immense. The French did their work well; but our fellows were up before them. I went up to the 7th to find out if Molesworth was hurt, but found he was on board ship. The next day we halted, and I went round the field of battle. We had one gallop up on to an escarpment the other day, and they left their arms ammunition carriages &c. all behind them; but with this exception we came on here without opposition. The siege train is to be landed here. Such severe work for troops has never been known for so long a time. No tents &c. We are frequently ahead of commissariat and all; and twice have had nothing but biscuit, and once no water for 42 [12?] hours; but now we are near Sebastopol our Commissary is with us, and we get our rum tea meat &c. I have had an attack of dysentery, but am better. I think Sebastopol will be ours in a very few days. The rumours are absurd. The country abounds in splendid grapes and fine vegetables and forage of all descriptions, and it is far superior to Bulgaria. We have a deal of night work to do, when the rest of the army is asleep, and I shan't be sorry for a quiet time. Burghersh has gone home with the despatches of Alma much against his will. We regularly broke their hearts there. I doubt them standing again.

Letter 19. Balaklava. Sunday Oct. 1st 1854.

- - - Here we are about 10 miles from Sebastopol, defending the rear of the army from Cossack attacks. Some divisions in front are already at work in the trenches. Such rough work as we have had since the 16th etc, no tents, only one horse apiece, so the baggage is limited, a shirt and a toothbrush. The dew at night is cold and heavy; but we have little time to sleep. We have been in advance up to this time. On the 18th I had a skirmish with some Cossacks near Kamischli, they being only 6 to 1 kept a respectful distance and I made my retreat good. On the 19th the 11th and ourselves came up with the main army, & lost 4 horses, 5 men wounded. The Russians losing some 25 men and an officer. On the 20th we came to Alma river, a position (the old hands say) stronger than Busaco. On our side a hill gently sloping down, a vine-yard intersected with stone walls; a river like the Lid at Sydenham at the bottom, on the Russian side a steep succession of ridges, with obstacles natural and artificial; capital ground for guns, ravines to retreat up, and on top earthworks and forts with guns in position, 32lb howitzers, 24 pounders &c. against our 9 and 6 pounders. Our first salutation was a shower of Minie bullets about our ears; and we took ground to our left to allow the infantry to deploy, which they

did so coolly as if in Hyde Park. The fire now was tremendous, every gun having the range of the banks &c which checked our troops. But in an hour the valley was crossed by the Lt. Division and the Duke's; and the Highlanders rushed up the hill like madmen. The enemy made them stand on every fresh position, but England would not be denied; and the retreat looked like a flight. We crossed the ford at a gallop with the H.A. and peppered them as we went; and in 2 hours and ½ had the top ridge of all and took prisoners on the plain behind it. They expected to hold it 3 weeks at least; and people came out from Sebastopol to see us licked. We had one horse wounded, no men. Can I ever be thankful enough? The carnage was great. We took a brass gun of theirs, and 2 field pieces. Prisoners, arms, accoutrements, &c. the gazette will tell you better than I can. 2 spare days after the action scarcely sufficed to collect the dead and wounded. We were a little quick for the French; if they had been sooner they wd have turned their left completely. Since that we have had one shy at a strong escort who fired one volley and fled, leaving wagons, arms &c. and prisoners with us. - - - We have had a bad enemy still in camp, the Cholera. We lost our Adjutant the other day. 5 officers have fever and have gone on board ship. The country is rich in excellent grapes, wheat &c. but I would give a good deal to be passing my Sunday with you at home. This is written on a broken barrel, so excuse it. The heavies are just landing, having not yet having done a bit of work, When Sebastopol is to fall I know not, but have faith in Lord Raglan. Rollo is all right. Poor Major Ferguson died on bd ship. Molesworth is on bd ship and was not at Alma, where his Regt. suffered much. I have been suffering from dysentery: but am (thank God) better. I hope again to pay you a visit and to make up by a few weeks' regular idleness for the marching about I've had lately. Some of the Russian regulars are very fine men. The Cossacks very indifferent.

Letter 20. Camp near Sebastopol. Octr. 7th.

- - - A post is just going out &c. I am thank God! all right again for the present. No man ever went nearer a regular attack of cholera. We are busy getting our guns into position and infantry are in the trenches day and night. The French landed 13,000 more men yesterday. Sebastopol looks more like an English town, clean, white, and substantial, than anything I have seen since I left our own happy land. They are very jealous of being "felt", and shell anybody who goes past a certain point. We have a force in our rear, of what strength I know not. This morn, at daybreak, some Cossacks attacked an advanced picket of the 4th D. Gds. when watering; and drove them into the line of vedettes, who skirmished till we (the Cavalry Divn) had turned out, and trotted up, when upon our H.A. firing they retreated. They were in good force, and had infantry and arty, as well as cavalry. On dit the siege is to commence in 2 days, and will take 2 days. I hope they are not too confident, In addition to our siege train, we have landed our ship guns, 68 pounders &c. and 1000 sailors under Lushington of the Albion as Brigadier are to work them. I know not where we winter. I trust B. Hutchinson will not come out with a draft, as I hope by next spring to be in England. - - - Jenyns has come up just now from Scutari with some convalescents, He says the excitement at Constantinople when the news of Alma arrived was wonderful. One Turkish frigate fired a salute at night. He had heard there that the Guards had not behaved well in action; if such a report reaches England it must be contradicted. No troops could have performed better. The General we took

died at Scutari, and was buried with all the honours of the Greek Church. We have tents now, very acceptable as the nights are cold. I have today recd a Cornish paper, the first paper I have had myself since my return from the Silistria patrol. Our Major and Purcell have gone to England sick. The Royals and Innks. had severe storms between this and Varna and have lost a quantity of horses. The health of the Army is on the whole improving. I wish Sebastopol was taken, for in addition to our turn of night duties we sleep with one eye open, and our hand upon our swords.

Letter 21. Camp Balaklava. Octr. 12th.

- - - A letter is hardly worth having as I wrote two days ago, but I suppose Crimean gossip is acceptable. Our fellows got 1100 yards forward last night in the trenches, the fire was hot, but very bad, and they did hardly any damage to us. They are rascally bad gunners. We are now within 900 yards of the walls, and their shelling is ridiculous at present. Several of our guns are in position, but Ld Raglan is waiting for a grand smash, and will not begin until we have everything arranged. It is just as well we (the Cavalry) did not pursue the other day when they attacked; as the French on the heights saw 11 guns in reverse. The French followed them up and they went into Sebastopol, and we have a battalion now impeding their exit. I was out on patrol yesterday and saw only 9 Cossacks, lucky, as the country was hilly, and full of ravines. They fled. The other patrol was attacked in a narrow road from a wood, but suffered no loss. Both are bad lines for Cavalry but I suppose Ld Raglan wants information about any force we may have in our rear. One of our transports came to grief this morning and drifted across the Harbour. They fired about 100 ridiculously wide shots at her, since that the last shot hit her bowsprit, when I left she was aground. Our people mean to burn her, as the Crew have a safe retreat. I am now all right in my inside, but had a narrow shave of cholera. I am obliged again today however, to lay up for my right leg. I was badly kicked as long ago as the 23rd September, at Balbec one night by a trooper, right in the thigh. It knocked me backwards, and made me queer, but the next day I managed my duty, and except an immense bruise and some pain, was right enough, and haven't felt anything very bad till 3 days ago, when it swelled up and got very painful. Today I couldn't move much, so showed it to the Doctor, who says fomentation and rest will make it all right. Mt general health is good enough. 2 days ago the wind set in from the North, and it was all of a sudden colder than anything I ever remember. Today the wind is from the West, and it is warm enough to be outside the tent, Gripps is better, though his hand took a bad turn after Alma. I should say a week more would see the Allies well into Sebastopol. The Tars at the guns on shore are immense fun. My 2 other horses and private servant have arrived from Varna, but the luggage is still on board ship. One thundering bore is that whole army have to be under arms before day break, until all outposts have been visited, in which case, if a Russian Army comes in our rear, they won't find us napping. I suppose Henry is at home by this time. I hope he has enjoyed his trip to Norway,

To John. Letter 22. Balaklava. Oct. 27th, 1854.

- - - I received yesterday a joint letter from - & -, and right glad was I to receive good news of all. By the blessing and mercy of God, some of the 13th

are left, but the day before yesterday was the most tremendous Cavalry action ever recorded. Our position is facing the East, the narrow passage leading to the harbour about a quarter of a mile to the right. Our left has a succession of high mounds upon a ridge, and 5 redoubts with guns have been erected, and garrisoned by Turks. Our rear is to the French heights, and our investing army. About 6.30, some ship guns of ours on some heights to our right front were heard, and we advanced, the force consisting of our 2 weak brigades, 1 regiment of Highlanders, 2 troops of H. Arty, and the above mentioned Turks. The enemy had about 30 guns, swarms of Cavalry, and Infy. The first thing that happened was, every single Turk ran right away, and left us exposed to an awful fire. They (the Russians) came over the ridge to our left, and down front, and opened with all their guns. Their Cavalry went at the Highlanders who were across the opening to the harbour, but wouldn't have it. They then advanced towards us, the Grays Inniskillings and Royals charged, and every Russian ran away. We then all advanced, and found we had beat them off, and that they had taken up a position at the bottom of the valley, over the ridge to our left; then a written order came from the Qr. Master Genl. for Ld. Lucan to advance upon them. It was seen by all to be madness, unsupported by guns, or infy. Directly we moved a flanking fire of arty. to our left opened upon us: 9 guns (heavy) in front, crowds of rifles to our right. We advanced 1 & ½ miles and it never ceased hailing grape and canister shell and shot upon us. We knocked the gunners away from their guns and cut them and some of their horses down, and came upon a line of Hussars, who ran away to a 2d. We were now reduced to a skeleton, and the word was given to retire: no support coming to us, we could take no guns, but when we silenced the front fire, the French took the guns near them on the left. My horse was knocked over at the guns, and I walked back, through a tempest, at a limp, being bruised by the fall. A line of Lancers tried to cut us off, but the 8th met them, and they bolted. Poor Oldham, Goad and Montgomery are dead or missing. They were all run down. Oldham by cannon shot. Jenyns had 3 shots in his horse, contusion in the leg. Smith 2 lance thrusts, slight. Jervis, Chamberlayne and myself, minus our horses. Young Goad had his horse shot early in the day. No other officers went into action, the others being in hospital, so we had the brunt of it. Next to us, the 17th, Winters, Thompson, Chadwick dead or missing. White, Webb (badly) and Gordon, wounded. 8th, Fitzgibbon dead. Seager and Clutterbuck wounded, and Clowes dead. 11th, Cook and Trevellyn wounded slightly. 4th. Halketts and Sparks dead. There are many more I don't know of in every regt. Staff, Lockwood, Charteris and Nolan dead. Eliot and Mayse wounded. Hardly one was hurt by anything except shot, The curs never stood. The heavies suffered slightly. We (13th) have lost 76 horses and 50 men killed and wounded; about one half dead. The 17th more. 21 of my troop horses are shot. Canrobert said: "It was a glorious sight to see the cavalry charge, but to order them to do it there, was not the science of war". Whoever gave the order never saw their position. Cardigan went in front well. Yesterday they made an attack upon our 2nd divn., in front, and our fellows took about 300 prisoners, and killed about 400 of them, hardly suffering themselves, The French have made a breach and we expect to storm in a day or two. I am sincerely grateful to God for my preservation on the 25th, and although one is always more or less in a dangerous position in war, no danger can be greater than that I have escaped. The action lasted 6 hours.

(Extract from Arthur's letter to Capt. Holden, describing action, Balaklava. dated November 1st, 1854).

(We, (the Light Brigade) formed up a mile or more from the enemy - a galloping valley between us. Nolan brought us an order signed by the Q.M.Genl. to advance. Everyone saw the madness of it. but on we went, and before we had got 10 yards, poor Nolan was shot dead. Suffice it to say that we went on at a gallop. The 17th and ourselves with a strong lead. My horse was bowled over 10 yards or so from the mouth of the guns, and I walked back, bruised and sore, through a tempest of grape, canister, shell, round shot and minies. Thank God, I am safe. The line went on, cleared the guns of the gunners, and drove a first line of Cavalry on to a second, who wavered, but our men were now countable by ones and twos, and a retreat was ordered. Cardigan rode ahead like an English Soldier. Our men behaved most admirably, and Ld. Raglan's genl. order is most complimentary. When I got back to the Heavies on my feet I found about 10 men rallied. Then came Jervis on a 17th horse, - three men more - then Smith, his clothes torn with lances. Then a few men more, with Jenyns who had 3 shots in old Moses, and a blow from a spent shot. Then Chamberlayne, like me, minus his horse. We had 82 troop horses killed (and wounded) and went into action 110 strong in the morning. You will see every officer was killed, wounded or lost his horse, as I have mentioned all who went into action.)

Letter 23. Balaklava. Nov. 3rd, 1854

To Mr - - - I wrote a line to John upon the 28th [27th] to tell you all of the action of the preceding day. We find we have lost 3 officers in the 18th [13th] and about 12 men killed, a like number taken prisoners, and 25 wounded. 82 horses hors de combat. Ld. Raglan has published an order giving us the greatest praise for gallantry, steadiness and perseverance under one of the heaviest fires on record. All agree in saying that there must have been some mistake in the order, as no such Cavalry attack is on record. The French were astonished at it, and from the Russian deserters we hear that they are awfully frightened at such a mad attempt. I don't believe that in an open field they will ever face our Inftry or Cavalry again. Today there is cheery news, we have taken a fort which has been bullying us, and I think a crisis is impending. We are moved away now to the Duke's division upon the right of all, to the N. of the Town, and why do I date from Balaklava? Because I have been for 3 or 4 days ailing, more from bad food than anything else, so they told me to go and rest from my labours for a while on board the Jason, who are treating us very kindly. Last night I slept between sheets, the first time since I left England. A rest from the night work will set me all right again. Young Ballers [Buller] of Lanreath (57th) has been wounded in the trenches, but not severely, The nights are now intensely cold. No one knows where we are to winter; this place I should say out of the case.

Letter 24. Balaklava. Nov. 10th, 1854

- - - I am still on board the good ship Jason, getting nice and strong, and shall in a day or two more go up and rejoin my regt. Since I last wrote, the action of the 5th has been fought. The Russians own to a loss of 16,000, but we can ill afford the loss we have sustained as sickness and other causes have

previously weakened our army so much. Poor old Genl. Strangways and Granville Eliot are both gone. Cullen [?] of the Rifles is slightly wounded. Sir G. Cathcart is an immense loss. Our brigade was scarcely under fire. I believe it was settled 2 days ago by a council of war that the allies were to winter astride Sebastopol, as the storming is post-poned until strong reinforcements (chiefly French) arrive. There is a strong army in our rear, and we are now in an entrenched camp, fairly strong, upon the heights above the Town. Our left extends from Balaklava to Cape Chersonese, and the right rests on the Inkerman road. The engineers spoke too lightly of the difficulties to be overcome, and with such masses of men as the Russians have, the taking of Sebastopol is no easy business. The weather here in winter is, we have been told, similar to English weather, except in the later months towards spring, when the rains and winds are severe. We, I suppose, are to huddle ourselves, and charcoal will be supplied by the shipping. Pray thank John for his kind offer of sending things out to me. If he has a chance of sending out by private hand, a draft of ours, or means of that sort, I'd like to have a regimental cloak sent to me, some tea, and 3 or 4 bottles of brandy, and if the interstices could be filled up by a railway book or two, I'd be much obliged. I don't see how our armies are to be embarked from this place, unless the army in our rear melts away in the winter, or unless some terms are patched up at home. Lt. Raglan and Canrobert I suppose have some scheme. Amongst others on board, we have Russell, the "times" correspondent, whose business seems to be the collecting of stories of individual action and regimental gossip. My trumpeter (Howarth) was amongst the prisoners taken on the 25th. They are well taken care of. I hear Henry has returned with a beard as usual. You should see what brutes we all look out here, innocent of razors for a long time, pipe-clay an unheard of thing.

Nov. 13th. I finished the 1st sheet 3 days ago, and on the evening of the 11th signified my intention to the Captain of passing Sunday quietly on board ship and rejoining the Regt. today. Yesterday however it came on to blow very hard, and a very heavy sea to run. About 2, the signal was made for this ship to make ready for sea, and proceed to a place near Varna for French Cavalry. The weather was so bad that the Captain would lower a boat for no one, and consequently young Goad, myself, and Capt. Sankey of the Qr. Master Genls. department, are obliged nolens volentes to make this trip across the Black Sea. The rest will do us good, and nothing very decisive will, I fancy, have happened at Sebastopol ere our return. Last night I imagine the fleet had a crack at the place, for the Agamemnon, Dauntless, Retribution, left Balaklava in the afternoon, and about dark we saw and heard very heavy firing in the direction of the town. Russell escaped on Saturday, so we have lost his company.

(On the envelope). We take in French Cavalry tomorrow, and then return to Sebastopol.

Letter 25. Camp above Sebastopol.

To Ma. Sunday, November 26th. 54.

- - - I sent you a scrambling sort of letter from Varna, after which we went on to Bonzass [*Bourgas?*] bay, and embarked 250 French dragoons, and brought them here, arriving at Cape Chersoness [*Chersonese*] on Tuesday, from which I walked up to our lines through the French Camp about 9 miles. We (the Lt.

Cavalry) are now in rear of the Guards, but I much doubt whether we shall be engaged again this winter as we are so weakened by shot and sickness. The poor horses here have been dying from the cold in numbers. I have only 28 in my troop out of 62 and am well off. The Camp is up to our knees in mud. It has rained incessantly for 3 days, and the place where the horses stand is about as good walking as the willow-beds. Our old Tents are by no means water-proof, and the floor would float a child's boat. Some days it is too rough to cook, and we have sumptuous spreads of biscuit and rum. One night every tent in the brigade was blown down, and some fellows sheltered in the French trenches. The siege is much in "statu quo". The rifles took one of the Russian advanced posts the other day with trifling loss. Inkerman frightened them from more attacks as yet. Ld. G. Paget has sent in his papers and has gone home. Some officers of the 4th, 8th, 11th and 17th have sent theirs in also, but are obliged to stay here till the answer arrives from England. I hope Ld. Raglan sees his way out of this. He seems in good spirits enough. I got a "Times" from you, and a letter and "Bell" from old Henry, this week. Very many thanks for all. How he seems to have enjoyed his trip and what a successful one it was!! Buller is at Balaklava in a house. The bullet hit his leg, and broke the bone. He is doing well, as also young Buller of Looe, who was hit in the foot. - - -, I freely confess that living on this hill has sufficiently damped my martial ardour to make me wish I was going to eat my Xmas dinner at Heligan. We ate our last one at Cardew [Carclew?]. - - Brighersh [Burghersh] has just paid me a visit, fresh from England, and rather disgusted to find us still outside the town,

Letter 26. Above Sebastopol. Dec. 1st. 54,

- - - "Pillicock sat a top of a hill, and if he's not gone, why he's there still". So said a nursery rhyme, and that just describes our case. We have had two or three fine days since I wrote, but the others have been regular Streamers. I have been up twice to watch the siege and anything more slack than the fire I never saw. The Russians however can still fire more than we can. The incessant work has honeycombed our guns, and we have landed 40 more from the ships; but it is next to impossible to get them up from Balaklava, as the road has assumed the appearance and consistency as the worst part of Bodmin Moor, and our supply of rum, biscuit, rice, etc., has in consequence become precarious. Tomorrow I believe we move into Balaklava (if we can get so far) and put the poor horses into sheds, and I shall put myself into one also. We shall be near the Supplies there, which is a comfort, especially as now officers are obliged to send for their own forage. The horses continue to die. Goad lost his charger this morning, and Smith has one dying. We have only 40 effective troop horses, and so on through the other regiments. Cardigan is sick. Doherty commands the brigade, and I the regiment, and a splendid command it is. The men bear up wonderfully. We have had new drafts out, the 9th, 68th, 97th and 46th regts, and drafts of others: but the new-comers don't stand it overwell. The French are very strong, and there is a strong rumour of a French corps d'armiee, landing somewhere to our North, near Alma. If so, we have our friends the Russians nicely. We have cut off the road to the north of the town and the garrison is said to be in great hardships. Lissrandi's [Liprandi's] army outside must be, as the roads now must be too bad to transport provision along, and there are no villages near to feed 100 men. I have a tent to myself again, which is a great comfort. There are 2

houses up here. One Lt. Raglan has. The other Canrobert, and Paulet Somerset was grumbling the other day that :d. Raglan had given him a room looking to the North!!! Two days ago we were surprised to see Goad's brother. He started from England the day he heard of his poor brother's death and came straight out to gain certain intelligence. He is a great acquisition, full of English news. John will be sorry to hear that Toosey Williams [*2nd Dragoons*] has died of fever at Constantinople. Houghton of the 11th is dead also of his wounds, and Webb of the 17th. We are now allowed to wear whatever dress is most comfortable, and I think we should astonish our depot. I turn out rather a swell, and my costume is as follows. An immense pair of fisherman's boots well greased, with the overalls stuffed inside. A very ragged jacket with a red Turkish sash (anti-cholera) round my waist, and a forage cap that is not improved by having done duty as a nightcap since we landed. The whole is generally surmounted by a grego [*short coat*] with a hood, a most excellent thing, especially to sleep in. This dress, with short hair and wild beard and moustaches, renders me an object which would frighten a weak-minded child into fits. Sebastopol seems a good deal battered lately, but the earthworks are so easily repairable that I fear their batteries are but little damaged. I think something must be up soon as the order to hut has been countermanded, and Canrobert told the Zouaves that in 3 weeks they would not want huts. I am afraid you will hardly read this, as the paper is so wet I can hardly get along at all. Everything in fact is pleasantly moist, especially my matches and Tobacco. The ship I came out in is here, and the Cornish Captain, like a trump, sent me a present of white biscuit, sherry and whiskey, a real piece of good nature. We are not badly off for supplies on the whole, but they are uncertain, The paper gives a good account of our action, but does not sufficiently blame the Turks for their cowardice; had they held the forts one short hour, the thing would have been far different.

Dec. 2nd. We are just arrived in our new camp, close to Balaklava, on a dry spot of ground. The march here (about 5 miles) cooked several horses!!!

Letter 27. Camp near Sebastopol. Dec. 6th.

- - - We are here now in a very comfortable camp, near our supplies, but the horses are so reduced in condition that they continue to die. I am strong and well again, leg, side and all. Strong reinforcements are arriving. I saw the 90th yesterday, looking spic and span, new red coats, and clean facings. A week or so will alter all that I fear. This morning our old enemies, Lissrandi's [*Liprandi's*] divisions, were seen by us to burn their huts and march away. They must be starved out I'd say. We have rumours of an action fought this morning to the North of the Katcha where the French are said to have licked the Russians - the French losing 1800, the Russians 4000 men. They also say Lissrandi's [*Liprandi's*] division has tried to enter Sebastopol by the North side, and had to fight our fellows, but I have not been able to get away, and I believe nothing till I see it myself. Cardigan is going home sick. I think things are coming to a point, and hope soon to write a letter from Sebastopol. Fall it must. Where will the Campaign be then? I hope that things will turn out so that next summer I may be walking with you and Lady M. somewhere out of reach of Shot and shell. I am rather tired of this, but trust to a glorious termination. - - - Cardigan has a good picture of the Balaklava charge in water-colours. It is to be published. The 13th and 17th are in their proper places in front, there they were.

(Extract from Arthur's letter to Capt. Holden, describing action, Balaklava. dated November 1st, 1854).

(We, (the Light Brigade) formed up a mile or more from the enemy - a galloping valley between us. Nolan brought us an order signed by the Q.M.Genl. to advance. Everyone saw the madness of it. but on we went, and before we had got 10 yards, poor Nolan was shot dead. Suffice it to say that we went on at a gallop. The 17th and ourselves with a strong lead. My horse was bowled over 10 yards or so from the mouth of the guns, and I walked back, bruised and sore, through a tempest of grape, canister, shell, round shot and minies. Thank God, I am safe. The line went on, cleared the guns of the gunners, and drove a first line of Cavalry on to a second, who wavered, but our men were now countable by ones and twos, and a retreat was ordered. Cardigan rode ahead like an English Soldier. Our men behaved most admirably, and Ld. Raglan's genl. order is most complimentary. When I got back to the Heavies on my feet I found about 10 men rallied. Then came Jervis on a 17th horse, - three men more - then Smith, his clothes torn with lances. Then a few men more, with Jenyns who had 3 shots in old Moses, and a blow from a spent shot. The Chamberlayne, like me, minus his horse. We had 82 troop horses killed (and wounded) and went into action 110 strong in the morning. You will see every officer was killed, wounded or lost his horse, as I have mentioned all who went into action.)

Letter 28. Dec. 12th/54. Camp before Sebastopol.

- - - I am just in from that most pleasant occupation, a 24 hours piquet; and on my return I found a letter from J.--- We are going steadily on, and sending more big guns up to the front. There is a talk of Russian reinforcements brought in Arabas from Perekoss [*Perekop*], via Bakshiserai and Simpheropol. French troops are undoubtedly near at hand, and I trust will land North of the town; and turn the Russian flank. There was lots of firing last night, and musketry also. The French are so close that they seem at a short distance to the Russian first line. We also (our batteries) look into the town, and every sound is plainly heard, such as dogs, street calls, bugles, clocks, bells, etc. Some sort of attack will, I fancy, be made before Xmas, and we shall probably get into the South side of the town. 100 wagons managed to get into Sebastopol 3 days ago on the Inkerman side. 3 Cossacks deserted yesterday from Lissrandi [*Liprandi*], and said they were short of grub. They looked it, but their horses were fat enough. One said he came to us, as his officers were always kicking him. After the cold and wet weather we have indeed a change. The last 3 or 4 days balmy and warm as a Cornish June, and last night on picquet it was rather a matter of congratulation to be out of a tent. We have a Cossack vedette about $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile from our picquet, and hitherto we have been on the best of terms, only looking at each other. Our horses are improving, but the brigade is very weak. The health of the new troops is very bad. More than 1500 went to Scutari yesterday at one swoop. I remain, thank God, strong and well. Rollo [*Rollo, The Hon Robert Rollo, Capt, 42nd Foot*] is Brigade major to the Highland Brigade and Stirling is Sir Colin's Regt. Genl. I see they have made Raglan an F.M. He will never come up to his master, Wellington. The troops never see him. Airey is, I fancy, the best man we have.

Letter 29. Camp near Sebastopol. Dec. 15th/54.

- - - As the post goes out on the 17th, I shall lay the foundation of a letter. Two days ago, our fine weather deserted us, and we had streams of rain, and this morning on waking, I fancied myself colder than usual, and that the light in my tent was odd, and upon examination found out we were attacked by snow, which, with hail and sleet, seems inclined to stay with us. It must bully the Russians in the valley much, as they are well flooded. On Thursday, I Paid Rollo a visit. He is Brigade Major to the Highland Brigade, which is now to the E. of Balaklava. His Commg. Officer, the Col. of the 42nd, commands the force there, consisting of the Highlanders, some Zouaves, Marines and Rifles, Turks also. I rode with him to the extreme right of our position, which is an advanced post of Rifles, between the village of Kamara and the Sea. On the cliffs opposite to us, about 1000 yards off, is a picquet of Cossacks, whose chief duty is to stop deserters coming over, but we get a good many every week. We are fortified strongly there, so you see the Allied position runs from that point, which must be 2 miles east of Balaklava, by the village of Kadikoi to Cape Cherson West, nearly 10 miles, and North to the Inkerman road, about 9, I'd say, and all fortified. Did you in England find out that our action at Balaklava was fought on the anniversary of Agincourt? which we all [?] by Hen. 5th's famous speech in Shakespeare. It was on St. Crispin's day, and against as great odds, and as we held our position and the village and harbour, nearly as important. They talk of an attack by land and sea on the 19th. I hope it will come off. The issue cannot be doubtful. We hear rumours of Austria going actively to work, that will make an immense difference. Allied reinforcements continue to arrive. We have only one picquet now, so we send our spare horses to draw rations for the Inftry, the Commissariat having entirely broken down. The poor fellows used to draw it from Balaklava themselves, and their trench work is awfully hard. I enclose a sketch of Jenyns - it is very like our Cossack friends, only they have a carbine also. Their dragoons look well enough, but all I think lack heart. Guns and mortars and howitzers are still being dragged up, and they talk of a battery which will bully the ships in a few days. If the French get all the reinforcements they talk of, I think Sebastopol will soon fall. They (the French) don't fight as well as we do, but they soldier better. Their huts, kitchens and camp contrivances are very good. We have made a vow, if we live till Xmas, to have a plum pudding: flour and raisons to be brought in a ship: the pudding bag is not determined upon. I think Mr. Gregor's hint, a new stocking, a good one. Dec, 17th I must finish now, as the post is going. No more snow today, but a warm and genial day. I have made acquaintance out here with a Vivian, Midshipman of the Sanpariel, a man of Ld. Vivian's. Pray remember me to Mrs. Molesworth and Tammy. I am sure they believe that I deeply regret poor dear James. I had no idea till I got M's letter, that Sally's son John was in the Army. I fancied he was a groom. Had I known he had been in this expedition, I might have been able to do the poor fellow a turn. Ld. Raglan's Commission as F.M. is dated, I see, on the day of Inkerman. We think here, he hardly earned it there; he scarcely gave an order; neither did he at Alma. We are miserably in want of Strategists. Will you ask John to order me a pair of boots from Carr Sherrard, Golden Sqe, - full large in the foot, in fact an extra sock should be provided for. They must come up to the bend of the knee, and be sufficiently large in the leg to enable me to cram looses overalls inside them.

Thick soled and heel leather. Also a pair of hunting spurs and leathers to them.

Letter 30. Camp Balaklava. Dec. 21st, 1854.

- - - We got another post today, but I drew blank. We are going on much as usual. Some large detachments have arrived, some grenadiers, the 71st and others. I explored the country between this and the sea a few days ago, and came to a most lovely monastery on the cliff, which is very like the North Coast of Cornwall. I also the day before yesterday rode all round Inkermann, and can now fully understand the Russian's loss. They always attack and retreat in column, not as we do in line, and the ravines they had to pass through must have been splendid practice for our Artillery. The nonsense the papers talk about particular regts. is amusing. For instance, the Guards. One never reads a paper, without a flaming account of them, and every line regiment is equally deserving of it. The 77th at Inkermann without ammunition charged with the bayonet, and rescued the 88th. The 88th stood without ammunition to allow Bosquet to get his Zouaves up, fired all they had (about 20 charges in all) and ran in. That is fighting. Yesterday the French Cavalry went a sort of patrol, about 1000 strong: over our old field at Balaklava and the country beyond. I went as an amateur. They met some Russian Infantry and Cavalry and retreated steadily, having I think, 4 men only wounded. The remains of Shot, shell, horses, etc., there make a man think. We are grieved to see that the "Grays" get the Lion's share of praise for the heavy charge. The Inniskillens, 5th and Royals did the work. What utter humbugs newspaper correspondents are!!

P.S. Many thanks for your offer of warm clothing. I think I can manage all that out here. It is so nice and warm now!!

Letter 31. Camp nr. Sebastopol. Jan. 7th, 1855

To Ma. - - - Snow to our knees, and a keen north-easter coming over the steppes as sharp as a razor. My sponge has become useless, being hard as iron and rough as a file. I am glad to be able to tell you that they are giving the men good warm clothing. One consignment brought them good long overboots with socks to correspond. Another warm jerseys, etc., and the last has supplied good English rough warm and thick P. coats [*Peacoats*]. They already have Sheepskin coats (a few for the picquets, etc.,) and a certain number of watch coats for the inlying guards. I was with Rollo some time today. I am glad he has got his Lt. Colonelcy, for in addition to being a good soldier, he is a gallant straight-forward fellow. - I got a letter yesterday from W. Collier, saying he had sent me some brandy. It is excessively kind of him and very acceptable, as independently of what oneself takes, a bottle to a friend is, out here, about the best present one can make. I can say but little about the siege. The firing is slack, except at night, when the French side is occasionally the scene of a volley or two. The 18th and 89th are at Balaklava waiting for a week or so for their tents before they go to the trenches. The snow had made the roads very bad. We lose 2 or 3 horses a day on commissariat duty alone, from this brigade. I have dug a pit in the side of the hill for my own, and made a sort of stable, which I shall cover with an old sail I have bought. I replaced the one shot at Balaklava by one from Hardinge, who

is gone home. Edmund Peel swore yesterday to seeing a wolf, which put shooting into my head, so having 4 spare hours, I went out, saw 2 sparrows and sniped them! I am living in hopes of John's parcels. The warm things will be highly acceptable. By the bye, I have a small Stove which makes a wonderful difference in a tent. I empty the contents every night. Several officers neglecting to do this have suffered. No less than 3 have been suffocated, but with a little care they are capital things.

Letter 32. Camp nr. Sebastopol. Jan.11th, 1855

- - - Lots of snow since I last wrote, then frost. Yesterday a thaw: last night a frost again; so you can imagine the state of the road between this and Balaklava. Tumbrils, Shot Shell, Commissariat with rum, biscuit, etc., dragoons with forage and Johnnies dragging wooden huts, all slipping about together. I have sunk my tent about 4 feet, got an iron bedstead from an officer gone home, (my own having broken down in Bulgaria) bought a brazier, and drawn a Stove from the Commissariat, and as they issue charcoal, manage to keep my tent very comfortable. It is necessary to throw all charcoal out at night. When the tent is wet, there is nowhere for the fumes to escape. They have issued some for the men's tents also, and dressed them well, for they now have long boots, etc., etc. I myself am anxiously awaiting the arrival of John's parcels. We had a little episode here the other day. A mounted Cossack deserted from his picquet, who fired at him, made a good shot and knocked his horse over, when he took to running, and made his way good to us. One of our batteries fired a shell at his pursuers, which knocked the snow about their heads, and made them retire. What an excellent article the "Times" of the 19th had, beginning our "Allies the French". Every word is true. Showing the entire want of management, the confusion at Balaklava, and the absence of all system. Our generals and Staff certainly are lazy or incompetent, for never was an army so well furnished with ammunition and stores, which arrive at the port; but as the ships (transports) seem to have no managing head and as there is no system for the transmission of Stores to the different divisions, ammunition, forage, stores, huts, etc., remain for weeks in Balaklava, though worth their weight in gold in front. The Commissariat having failed, they are killing the Cavalry at the time it wanted wintering and nursing, in doing Commissariat duty. Jenyns and myself have dug a pit in the side of the bank, got some planking etc., from the Engineers, bought a sail from a ship, and constructed a fairly comfortable stable for our own horses. - Conolly, who is a friend of the French Adjutant Generals, saw his letter to the French Government about our Charge on the 25th. It was much more complimentary than anything our generals ever wrote. Canrobert, who saw it, would hardly believe we were not to be decorated for it. He has since said that if our Government would allow it, the Emperor wished to give us the "Legion", which we would rather have than the clasp for Alma or Inkerman. The Heavies, who get neither of the latter, were rather savage about it. There is sometimes a deal of firing at night, at other times, you wouldn't know a siege was going on. I don't see any solution to the war, except Austria frightening our friend the Czar.

P.S. There were 600 Russians taken 3 nights ago. The French did it I believe.

Letter 33. Camp near Sebastopol. Jan.18th, 1855. *[15th?]*

- - - Everything is much the same as usual. Steele (the Military Secretary) told a friend of mine that the reason our fire was so slack, is that if we opened so as to provoke a savage return, our batteries would be silenced in a day, the Russians having guns in position in the proportion of 4 to 1. The men from the front are sent down sick in great numbers every week, and the cold weather we have lately had must have been awful work in the trenches. The Articles in the Times have had the effect of stirring up Lord Raglan, and he has lately been a little less invisible. - - We have a partial thaw today, and an amount of slop in consequence. I saw them 2 days ago, at work with theodolites surveying the ground for the "Railway". - My parcels from John & Co. have not yet arrived, but I have no doubt will one day make their number. They talk peace here, I suppose because they wish it, but I see nothing in the English papers to justify the conclusion. I hope the reinforcements will be older men than we are now getting. These last no time. The 63rd Regt. I believe exists only in name, and it has less shot and shell than almost any. We are getting "small by degrees" and I don't expect a horse in the division will be worth keeping, should any survive the winter.

Letter 34. Camp nr. Sebastopol. Jan.15th, 1855. *[18th?]*

To Hy. - - I have just time to thank you for your letter and for your kindness in sending me the Reindeer Coat. It will be a capital thing, as my duty is a great deal in line where I cannot run about, but have to stand about in the cold, pulling about rotten saddlery and looking after used-up horses. The Government have given us sheepskin coats too tight in the chest for an Englishman to button, with roses and daffy-down-dillies embroidered all up the back. It is cold enough now, about 15 inches of snow. I was on picquet last Friday; it snowed in the morning, and froze in the afternoon, so to keep the horses on their pins, I was obliged to lead them in; a useful picquet!!! Last week the Russ. made a sortie upon our left attack, found some of the 68th advanced posts, poor overworked fellows asleep, took a sergeant and 15 men prisoners, wounded an officer and 4 men, but were beaten back by the French with some loss. The mismanagement of Stores etc., is frightful. Cobden's speech is excellent; had he been out here himself he could not have described things more accurately. - - It would not do for you to come out here, now. The new men fall sick, and in the Spring I anticipate hard work and lots of it. Thank God I never was better. J--ns and P--y are both seedy. J--s, young Goad, C--ne and myself are for duty only. I got a letter from Brown today, telling me he had by John's order despatched things, through Hayter and Howell by the 'Balck Prince'. I have got my tent very comfortable and keep a full larder. I don't see the way into Sebastopol and doubt Omar Pasha being able to stop reinforcements coming against us in the Spring. Peace would be well-timed could it be got on fair terms. Their deserters however talk of great distress in the army outside the town. Thanks to Mrs. Lt, E, Wathen Thompson and Madocks, and some others, the men will soon have abundance of blankets, warm clothing, frying pans, and tobacco. All the new guns are parked and ready when the snow goes to run into the batteries, but I doubt their doing much yet. Canrobert talks of going into the town after them, if we have the luck to repel the next sortie, and of trying to stay there. It sounds rash. We began the expedition too late, with too few men, but must hope for the best. We have excellent allies. May we never have to fight them!

Letter 35. Camp nr. Sebastopol. Jan. 26th, 1855.

To M--a. We are rejoicing in bright, clear cool days, and very cold nights; a partial thaw some few days ago has nearly got rid of the snow.

----- Ld. R. has been known to penetrate the quays of Balaklava. I see that even at home our arrangements for the reception of Sick and Wounded are far from being perfect. The Himalaya landing her miserable cargo at Portsmouth is well described in the Times. We have papers to the 19th, and don't know what to think of peace. It must be peace or reinforcements. The 33rd have 40 men for duty, and the 63rd are gone to Scutari, colours and all, the Col., 9 officers and 14 men being the final muster. They are landing 3 or 500 magnificent mules now, brought from Spain and Malta. They are as big as good sized horses, and if properly taken care of, ought to save the troops the work of fetching their own food for many a month. A Staff Officer has gone to Smyrna, Cyprus, etc., to buy horses for the Commissariat. Ld. Raglan is reported to have said that he had an excellent army to travel by railway, and fight at any station, but that without the rail he saw no means provided for transporting them. A most shocking thing happened here yesterday, Our orderly-room clerk was promoted in a gazette received here 3 days ago to the rank of quarter master (an officer) and yesterday he fell down dead, apoplexy the cause. One night's orders recorded his promotion, the next night's gave instructions for his funeral!!! Some officer's servant lately arrived was going up to the front yesterday with his master's things, and steered for the Cossack picquet, which caught him in spite of our firing guns to warn him at first, and then to knock him over, What a catch for a Cossack, two portmanteaus just from England! My boxes are not yet arrived, but ships come in nearly every day. There is still a talk of this brigade going to Coolalie to refit. There is a talk of the ships going in once more, but that I fancy will not be till the day we assault. They may stop that by another Inkermann. We were, you know, to have attacked on that day. We yesterday opened some 13-inch mortars, rather nasty gentlemen.

Letter 36. Camp nr. Sebastopol. Feb. 2nd, 1855.

- - - I a few days ago received a box containing the most delicious warm clothing. - - - - We have one day bitter cold, north wind and sleet, and the next warm and sunny with a south wind. I have been to St. George's monastery twice lately, and made acquaintance with an old Englishman, who had some dockyard appointment in Sebastopol. He has been here for 15 years, but still has a hankering after his old country. The monks regaled us with tea and a slice of lemon, the Russian fashion, and an excellent substitute for milk. They expect an attack on our front with a feint on this side or vice versa, every day, as the grand Dukes have returned, and the deserters say such a thing is meditated. The French have some 70,000 men here, and have relieved us in some parts of the lines. Burghersh was here a few minutes ago. He thinks peace likely, but I don't believe the French will ever make peace until we see the inside of Sebastopol. Eupatoria is safe. 21,000 men and 31 guns in position. I fancy we shall storm before the middle of March, destroy the arsenal and shipping, and not attempt the north side of the town. The health of the army is perhaps improving. Hospital huts have been erected. I shall hut myself. - - The Jean d'Arc is in, full of troops, with Ld. Rokeby and Genl. Barnard on board. We get our letters now twice a week, ver regularly.

Letter 37. Camp nr. Sebastopol. Feb. 9th, 1855.

- - - On Tuesday I went up to see Burghersh, and he took me into lunch with F.M. Raglan. Whilst at lunch, the mail arrived with the Times of the 22nd with its bitter article, which, however, the old boy seemed to care very little about. People at home seem to think that he ought to control the elements, avert pestilence, do all the engineering part of the siege, and remedy blunders committed by authorities at home. Yesterday a splendid coat arrived for me. Another box is in, and I hope to get it today, so you see, I am very comfortable. The firing for the last 3 days has been heavier than usual. The French have begun with their mortars, and are firing shells promiscuous-like into the town. - - - I think things are drawing to a point here, and that our attack will be made shortly, provided they don't attack us, and another Inkermann business happen. The French have over 70,000 men here, but the Russians, per contra, we learn have large reinforcements from Bakshiserai. The Navvies are at work at the rail, but they seem to take it coolly. Rain has been the order of the day lately, but today bright and clear weather has appeared. There is a dead wolf and cub at the head of our lines, shot I suppose while meditating a feast upon troop-horses. I like the Observer as a paper here much - a Cornish paper is also pleasant.

Letter 38. Camp nr. Sebastopol. Feb. 16th, 1855.

- - - The division is naturally plunged into grief at the recall of Ld. Lucan. He was recalled about 3 days ago, and sailed this morning. He was, I'd say, as bad a cavalry officer as ever rode. I received a visit yesterday from a countryman, a sapper, Tawton by name. He seems doing well. Genl. Jones, our Engineer, has arrived here, and Genl. Melle, the Frenchman, the cleverest of his way. They say we can never take the place by bombardment, until we invest it, so that Sir J. Burgoyne for his 2nd time in his career has failed in siege operations entirely. Had St. Amand [*Arnaud*] lived, we should stormed long ago. The French have 84,000 men, we about 12,000. But the Russians have a larger force between us and Simpheropol. There is talk of another reconnaissance soon, and perhaps an attack on their camp. Today we have 6 horses only not in the sick report, poor old 13th!! Can they make us fit for anything anywhere short of England? I have now received all the parcels, and am well off for everything. The books were most acceptable to all of us. It is so nice and warm again that one fancies Spring is really at hand, but March we hear is a bitter month. - - - - Basset was here when I got your letter and had not previously heard of Lady Basset's death. There was heavy firing all last night, and this morning, but nothing new has taken place as regards the siege.

Letter 39. Camp nr. Sebastopol. Feb. 18th/55.

To myself. - - - Yesterday, whilst on picquet with a stupid book, I received your jolly letter. - - Burghersh today told us the news (doubtless you will have heard it before this arrives) of the defeat of the Russians at Eupatoria. He says 40,000 with 100 guns attacked, but were repulsed, and suffered some loss, leaving a good many prisoners behind; some tumbrils and 2 wagons laden with scaling ladders were taken. An English gun-boat and 2 steamers did

good service shelling as they advanced. The Turks lost amongst others a Brigadier Genl., of the Egyptian troops. Some French subalterns were also shot, but our sailors and marine officers escaped. An attack was expected the next day, but the Admiral here despatched 3 steamers from hence directly the post with the news arrived. Since this, we have again taken to the old term "Bono Johnny", fallen into disuse since Oct. 25th. The Russian Army between this and Baktshiserai is described as being in a very bad state. Fever and Cholera, and no physic, heavy floods and impassable roads. On dit, that if the weather holds dry, an attack on them is to be made. As 80,000 French are here, I myself think that we ought to attack them outside now, kick them well, and then go in at the town. Some few drafts for us have been landed lately, and altogether things are looking up. I can't make out what they will do with us; if all the other Cavalry Regts. come out, they cannot recruit us as to any efficient strength. Lucan's recall was sudden. He was "no bono" as a Dragoon. Young Strangways knows nothing as to Fozzy's marriage as is to be. I remember her in Dublin, I do not know Canrobert well enough to ask him if he is spoony. We expect to make a reconnaissance soon (the French the actors) towards Byda [*Baidar*] and Tchourgoum [*Churgoun*]. We have never seen G. Paget yet, since the people kicked him out of London. He has lingered at Constantinople, but is expected at [?]. He leaves the fair Agnes at Therapia. They say here that his reasons for avoiding brussels when he went home on his road from Trieste was that he feared Ld. Anglesey's leg (lost at Waterloo) would revive and kick him!!! The rail is prospering wonderfully, and looks quite familiar to one. The Turks and Tartars, are sorely puzzled. I have not written to dr. Mr. by this post, as I wrote a few days ago, and our siege does not afford events enough for every mail. I shall one day date my letter from Sebastopol, and that will compensate for all.

Letter 40. Camp nr. Sebastopol. Feb. 23rd/55.

To M--a. - - - On Monday night I was going to play a rubber of whist in Jenyns' tent, when an order came for the brigade to turn out at midnight; a certain number of officers, the 3 senior Captains, which included me. Ourselves, the Heavies, a troop of H.A. and a battery with 3 Highland regts, paraded at 12. Sir Colin Campbell commanding. The original plan was that the French should go on the north side of the Tchernaya, rout the Russians out of Tchourgoum, and we should cut them off by the Byda [*Baidar*] road. It snowed all night, and was a great deal the severest night we have had, and at daybreak we were a mass of icicles. 2 or 3 men were frost-bitten. It was so bad that a few French only came, and we made a reconnaissance on the Byda [*Baidar*] road, and were back by 11 next morning. 11 very sharp hours. On dit, General Forey has been found out communicating with the enemy, and is either to be shot, or sent a prisoner to France. The siege progresses slowly, the weather is disagreeably cold for trench and picquet work. The rail is going on famously and in a few days they will run to Kadi-Moi [*Kadikoi*]. It is astonishing how regularly we get our letters now. A mail arrives almost every 3rd day, and the papers are only a fortnight old. The guards came down today to take some rest and recruit themselves in huts. The 39th relieve them. Wooden houses and quaint erections are now visible in every direction. I think things are looking up, and fine weather, if unattended by cholera, will enable us to storm the place. They say Airey is to be recalled for doing everything wrong, and Estcourt, who, worthy man, does nothing at all.

Letter 41. Camp nr. Sebastopol. Feb. 26th./55.

To Hy. - - I sent - a letter a few days ago. On Friday night, the French attacked a new redoubt the Russians had been busy about lately, and I am afraid to say they got an awful mauling. The Russians had evidently been apprized of the attack, for upon the head of the Zouave column getting close to the redoubt, some advanced sentries of the enemy threw out electric lights, and an awful fire was poured in upon the front and flanks by about 6,000 (?) Russians. The French ran in and pushed the Russians to the water edge, and then had to fight their way back to their reserves, their 10th Regt. and their marines, but they had cut it. The thing was disastrous and useless, for tho' they held the redoubt for some time, there were no guns in it, and they could do nothing but kick the gabions about, and they lost 250 men, about, and 17 officers. They themselves say they wanted one English regt. there, as our "peculiar solidity" would have enabled us to stay when the Marines etc., bolted. - - - The Guards are down here now, of which I am glad as they are good neighbours. Tell M--r I did not command the 13th at Boulganak, but I commanded the squadron which skirmished from 3 miles from Kannickli [?]; our first sniff of Russian powder. If they don't make a peace, my idea is that Sebastopol will eventually fall and we shall meet the Russians once fairly in the open, when a Waterloo will take place, a *dérante* [*déroute*] of their army. G. Paget made his number on Saturday last.

Letter 42. March 2nd, 1855. Camp nr. Sebastopol.

To Mother. - - Nothing has happened here since the French were pitched into, and that has tended only to make them doubly savage. I had a lively run the other day: I was talking to the Captain of the Picquet, when we saw a mounted man going like blazes in the plain below: we pursued, but he had nearly a mile start, and we lost sight of him by the Russian picquet at Kamara. He was a French Dragoon, a clear case of desertion. He passed within distance of an Infantry Sentry, who was lately landed, and green enough not to fire at him. The French have been rocketing the Town a good deal lately, a favourite practice of theirs and very pretty to look at. There was an Armistice on Tuesday for a few hours to bury the dead at the redoubt attacked by the French. We hear Johnny Russell is gone to Vienna, May he make peace. Snow and frost again but bright sun occasionally.

Letter 43. Camp nr. Sebastopol. March 9th 1855.

To M--s. - - - Turbulent people you seem to be in England, never satisfied with any ministry. I think it is a pity Gladstone and Sir J. Graham are ousted. Two days ago we heard of the Emperor's death. It was telegraphed from Bucharest to Vienna, and brought to Varna by a Tatar [*Tartar*] and thence by special steamer to Raglan. This morning there is a rumour that Menshikoff. Burgheresh went with a flag of truce to tell them that the Emperor was dead; but they wouldn't believe him, in fact thought we were a chaffing of them, I took Buller to the field of Inkermann the other day; and we dismounted and walked to one of the French advanced works on our right. The Russians seem to have been indefatigable; and their guns on the Inkermann side from the Inkermann light to the Star fort seem almost

countless. They were busily employed in shelling Turks who were carrying shot in the Zigzag, between the parallels, and tried us, but couldn't get the right range. We opened a 7 gun battery on Tuesday, upon 2 of their steamers, and did some little damage. They however have a ship we cannot get at, which throws shells right up to the 2nd division camp. They have lately sunk more ships. I was on board the Royal Albert a short time ago, what a splendid ship she is! Yesterday I rode over to Ramiesch [*Kamiesch*], the French landing place, and though they have shops &c. there, I think they do not surpass us in keeping order. Drunken Zouaves were fighting at every turn. Yesterday and today have been two most lovely hot days. The health of the Army is much better. The men are well fed, and clad, and have all sorts of extras. The work also is diminished. Another French division landed last week, We all think peace will be shortly patched up; but of course know nothing about it. I wish the "Times" office was burnt down. It has done its best to do harm, by taking the worst view of everything, and now it seems to me is trying to revolutionise the Country.

Letter 44. Camp nr. Sebastopol. March 18th 1855.

To M--a. A mail came in last night, but nothing for me. The papers however seem pacific. We have them up to the 2nd. Here we have warm weather, and apparently winter is at an end. I don't think I want anything for the summer, as I suppose we shall be campaigning again, in which case, I shall reduce my kit to the smallest possible compass, and send all superfluities on board ship. A few cigars may however be confided to one of the draft. I went into one of our new batteries yesterday, and saw the firing. The Russians are working hard at a new work, wh: will prove troublesome. It is in front of the Round Tower [*Malakoff?*]. We have 2 13 in. mortars ready for mounting against it, which will also throw their pretty lively shells into the town, as Mrs. Gamp ays promiscuously. The French are disappointing us. Oh! for 70,000 English!! The Zouaves declare they won't fight any more without the English with them. On Wedny night they attacked some Russian rifle pits? and took them, but cd not hold them. In this useless affair they lost 72 men. This I heard Canrobert tell Ld. Rokeby, and they always underrate their loss. Gen. Simpson arrived on Wedny, expecting to find us in a bad plight, but found men and officers as comfortable as possible, and races going on at Ravani [*Karani*]. Sebastopol looks pretty this fine weather. One can see the people on the parade, by the arsenal lounging about, and after the attack the other night the organs and men chanting "Te Deum" were distinctly heard; it all sounded as a friend of mine in the trenches said, very like a scene in the "Huguenots". A good many deserters have come in lately, from what they say the troops in Sebastopol are indifferently fed; and a bad fever is prevalent in the town, I am glad Ld. Goderich was beat in the house in his motion on the subject of Commissariat. It wd make an enormous difference to me. P.S. They were to have opened the heavy fire again tomorrow, but the Col. of the Siege Train told us yesterday that the plan was again altered.

Letter 45. Camp nr. Sebastopol. March 23rd 1855.

- - - We are beginning to think very little of the French. The Russians have beat them 2 or 3 times, and our men have volunteered to do the desired task, turn the Russians out of the rifle pits, and hold them, but the French think

they are now bound in honour to do it themselves. Yesterday there was a deal of firing from us; our new mortars throwing 13 in. shell with wonderful precision. The Russians were nearly silent. At night however they made a strong sortie upon a working party of our, and beat back some of the 17th, but the 57th came up with a run, and put them back again, killing they say over 100, We lost 2 officers and 20 men I hear. I am now going to ride up to hear the true account if I can, but must send this off first. Dickson has sent me a magnificent present of clothing &c. and 2 boxes of excellent cigars. What a showing up Lucan has received from Ld Raglan!! A draft of ours was to leave Dorchester on the 10th but I fancy they were to stop at Scutari. We have a match at football coming off. Cavalry versus Guards, all Eton men to play. I wish we had old Henry to help us. It is deliciously mild weather now; with sufficient rain to lay the dust. P.S. Simpson seems rather infirm. He has not effected any changes as yet. He signs the orders instead of Estcourt, but goes about very little. Sir J. Macneil is improving the Commissariat department a good deal.

Letter 46. Camp nr. Sebastopol. March 26th 1855.

- - - I gave you a very meagre account of the attack on Thursday night. It was a genl sortie from the town, all along our lines, and the French. They were beat back immediately by us; and some time after the French made their impression. Col. Kelly 34th was taken prisoner with 2 or 3 other officers. Two officers were killed; and about 30 men. The French lost killed and wounded between 3 and 400. The Russians lost double that number. Our men fought most beautifully. The 57th were working when attacked, and they fought their way to their arms with shovels and pickaxes, and then licked the Russians back with the bayonet. On Saturday there was an armistice for burying the dead. It lasted about 4 hours, and during that time a most curious scene was enacted. English, French and Russians walking about in the space between our advanced works and theirs laughing, smoking and talking, giving each other cigars &c., and immediately the white flag was hauled down bang went a big gun again, slap into their parapet. I suppose there was an attack expected here this morning, as we were roused at 3 a.m. and told to be in readiness, saddled &c. by 4.30. However it came to nothing; which I certainly anticipated, so I never got out of bed. - It is so hot today.

Letter 47. Camp nr. Sebastopol. March 29th.

To Jm. - - - Yesterday we got papers up to the 15th with but little news. The Roebuck Commee, can do no possible good. They get a Captain of a Transport, and examine him on the subject of the Cavalry; so I suppose Lucan will speak to the state of the transports. The French failed again two nights ago in taking the rifle pits; but did not lose many men. The Russians own to 1500 killed and wounded in that sortie about 10 days ago. We are firing heavily from our mortars today; and on Monday next, according to Burghersh, we are to commence firing along the line and then I suppose if we get their fire under at all, the assault will take place. Sir Colin seems to have been expecting an attack on this place lately; we have been saddled and ready at 4.30 this last week. We (the Captains) now join the subaltern's picket at night with some more men, and patrol the plain till morning; to prevent the Cossacks coming in by the rail. We (the Cavalry Dvn) played the Guards at football on Tuesday; and had an even match. It is too hot for any more of such

work. Yesterday and today have been like Bulgarian days. - - We hear of drafts being under orders to sail for us, but Billy Gore gives me but a so-so acct of man or horses. - - The Himalaya arrived 2 days ago with 400 horses for the Artillery. They were much wanted. The 18-pounder battery is in the harbour. The Ships have gone for the 10th who are living right royally at Alexandra. The Pasha paying all their messing and wine, and the men getting grog and baccy gratis also. Ld G. Paget, Ld Elcho and Mrs. Dudley Ward, are we hear, coming here to see the place in Ld Ward's yacht. P.S. Some of the Croat camp followers had a row on Monday night among themselves, 4 were killed, 6 wounded. Pistols and daggers were the weapons.

Letter 48. Camp nr. Sebastopol. April 2nd, 1855.

- - - I today recd an order to embark this evening with 1 subn and 45 men for Scutari to await the arrival of the drafts. It is a great nuisance going down there with the men just now and leaving the regt. here, but the Col. insists on the Senior Captain going, so I am going and young Goad with me. Officers from all the other Regts. are going. We are now ordered to start tomorrow in the Emperor. I believe Raglan wants to begin firing this week but the French hang back. This mail seems pacific. We may be home, I think, before the winter.

Letter 49. Scutari. Easter Day, 1855.

- - - I wrote a line in a great hurry previous to leaving Balaklava. We steamed out about 4 on Tuesday afternoon; and arrived here on Thursday morn having been outrageously sick most of the way through the Black Sea. The passage down the Bosphorus repaid all discomfort. The morning was magnificent, and the scenery perfectly lovely. We have the men in barracks; and we ourselves have 2 houses outside. This one belongs to Major Peel, 4 other captains and myself. It is exactly opposite the Golden Horn; with a magnificent view of the Bosphorus, Constantinople and the Sea of Marmora. Olympus towering in the distance. I went to Pera on Friday; and saw several English people; some sick officers, and some amateurs; among others - Sartoris. Yesterday we saw a large Caravan of Pilgrims start with a deal of pomp and show from [to?] Mecca; the Sultan was to have marched them off but did not come. I hope to be able to see all that is worth seeing here, but first of all, I have a great deal of duty to do. Buying things for the men, and entirely reorganising the Regt. is my work. Ld Wm Paulet knows nothing of any horses having left England for us; and I hope we may have a month or so here; now we are settled. He (Ld Wm P.) is the Commandant, a very good fellow. I have known him a long time. He says the earthquake here a short time ago was very sensibly felt. Broussa [Broussa?] which suffered so much, I hope to be able to reach. The hospitals here are in most perfect order. Clean and well ventilated, with every convenience and luxury. Constantinople is much altered since last May. It now looks like a French town. Lots of French troops are in it, and most of the officers' wives are here. There is an Opera going on, Norma last night, very inferior. We were able to stop our letters here from going on to the Crimea. Nothing is known yet here of the Vienna negotiations. It is very hot already; very different from the Crimea. The break in the work will be to me very pleasant, tho' I didn't like the idea of leaving Balaklava. I intend to buy a pony here, and after the work is over in the evening, to ride about the country. The

streets are all named, and we are living in Palmerston Road. Victoria Terrace, Albert Sq., Nightingale, Bracebridge and Stratford St. are the most familiar localities. There is an excellent reading-room attached to the hospitals. The sick and wounded in addition to their rations get port wine, jelly &c, as much as ever is wanted. The Russian Embassy is a hospital for French officers. 7,000 Turks, 23,000 French have lately gone up to increase the garrison at Eupatoria.

Letter 50. Scutari. Apl 15th /55.

- - - I have been hard at work since I last wrote, but as part of my work consists in buying things for the men, I have been a deal in the Bazaars, which are an extraordinary sight; in fact altogether Constantinople is a most wonderful place, and about the most curious part of it is, the number of different nations you see represented in it. English and French of course abound; Egyptians, Arabians, Smyrna Jews, Greeks, Italians, Poles, Wallachs, and Armenians are the most common, and there are a good many Persians with their tall black Kaftans for Headdresses. On the night of the 10th at dinner we were saluted by a shock of an earthquake, not severe, but quite a new sensation. Everything began to tremble and jingle, and the floor felt as if some strong man was underneath lifting it up on his shoulders. No damage was done. Two of the window sashes in our house went on leave in the street. You know most probably know more about Sebastopol than I do. I send you however on chance the last bulleting. In addition to it, it was rumoured last night that we have got at several guns, and taken them, and Sir R. England killed. Lots of the Imperial Guard are here, and go on tomorrow. The 7th Dragoons, and a regt. of Hussars, go up today. Our 10th Hussars passed up the Bosphorus on Friday from Alexandria. I get my letters two days sooner than I did in the Crimea. Sayers [*Soyer*] opened his kitchen here this week, and on his opening day, there was free admission to all comers. He certainly does a deal with very ordinary material but I much question whether he will ever induce our soldiers to affect the culinary art. The worst men the Turks have they put into the army it seems to me, for there one sees such miserable wretches. The loads they carry on their backs are quite enormous. One hamaul [*hamal*] or porter will carry more luggage than the Great Northern wd let you take without paying extra I am sure. We are going today to the "Sweet Waters", where all the women parade on fine days.

Letter 51. Scutari. Apl. 18th 1855.

To myself. - - - - I have been hard at work since I have been here, but see no signs of the drafts arriving. I generally manage every other day to dine or sleep in Pera, but have not been to the opera yet. Today I have been over Ste. Sophia, a magnificent temple. The marble is splendid but the mosques are not so taking to me (I mean the interior) as Roman Cath: Basilicas. I had a talk with Zorab yesterday, the Greek physician. He has a farm near Brompa [*Broussa?*], and on the night of the earthquake, he was at dinner there with Dudley Carleton of the Coldstreams. He ran out of the door and was partially buried in the ruins of his farm: his servant was under him. Carleton jumped out of the window. Brompa was then on fire in 5 or 6 places. You ask my opinion of --. I think he is incompetent, and at one time did not satisfy himself as to the truth of matters, but trusted too implicitly to -- and Co.. --- As to Ld

Lucan, I believe Lt R's order, never sufficiently explicit, was misconstrued by Nolan, but a Lt. Genl. has discretionary power; and a Vivian or an Anglesey wd never have sent 610 sabres agst an army in position; agst masses of Cavalry with guns in position, and infantry in front and either flank, Words of command from generals were as few and far between on that day as they were at Inkermann. Adye of the Artillery was asked by some civilians if any general rallied us and prevented our going too far. He is a quaint fellow, and answered: Oh no! the few regimental officers left alive did all they could, but the men dashed on; and one of the 13th Lt Drags. (the leading regt.) charged through them, and is going still; he was last seen at Perekop where he stopped to water his horse, and went on. Some days afterwards the same man met Adye; who told him the one 13th man had found no more Russians to pursue, and was coming back by himself skirmishing!!! Did you ever hear such an invention to gull an amateur, of whom there are lots who swallow everything. The fire at Sebastopol of our guns does not seem to do the damage necessary; but as the scaling ladders were taken down into the trenches on the 13th I suppose something will be attempted. The Queen and London ships of war went up today to reinforce our already gigantic fleet. The Sardinian contingent I hear is to go no further than Constantinople at present. The Helijan and Lanuman will for the future repose between the leaves of my prayer book. I meant to have sent seeds from the Crimea, but I put it off too long. I suppose I shall have another opportunity.

Letter 52. Scutari. Apl. 23rd.

To M--a. - - - The Arabia has arrived with horses for some of the regiments and I suppose the Arg wh: contains ours will be in very shortly. The trip here has not been unpleasant; for being constantly in Pera and Stamboul one has been able to mix business and sight-seeing. Ste. Sophia rather disappointed me; some of the marble is beautiful. They made us put some slippers over our unholy boots, and admitted us to the chapel, where some 30 or 40 were assembled in 3 sides of a square with the head swell in the middle. For one hour and 20 mins. they kept up the most awfully deafening howl, at the same time swaying their bodies backwards and forwards. The service concluded with the old story, pipes and coffee. I went yesterday to see the Sultan's new palace [*Dolmabache*] in Tophana on the banks of the Bosphorus. It is most gorgeously magnificent: the rooms are very spacious, and the ceilings beautifully ornamented. The baths are most tempting and the ladies have no reason to complain of their quarters. The grand hall is the best worth seeing of all. It is of an immense size; and ornamented in every possible way; with the Bosphorus rolling down close under the windows. It is a pity such a magnificent palace sd belong to so contemptible a wretch as Abdul Medjid. I think I told you of our dinner party - the Pacha of the town; and Soder [*Soyer*] the cook, a strange mixture. The weather had been rather agst us, and a little wind makes the Bosphorus too rough for a caigne [*caique*].

Letter 53. Scutari. May 6th.

- - - Do not direct anymore to Scutari; for we have now orders to go back as soon as possible, without waiting for the horses; and I can always stop any letters directed "Crimea" here; as the letters are al resorted in Pera. War seems a certainty I fear, for some time. We hear the Emperor has been shot at

in Paris. Lots of Sardinians have arrived, and are to go on straight to the Crimea. The French camp of 2,700 men in Pera has orders to break up; and to be ready to embark for Ramiesch [*Kamiesch*] on the 10th; so I suppose at last the Raglan, Canrobert & Co. will awake from their long inactivity and do something. We hear that 2 or 3 days ago, a force of 15,000 men or so embarked from Balaklava; their destination is, we believe, Kertch, where there are supposed to be large stores, and much ammunition. - - - - The middle of this week will most probably see us on our way again. Constantinople is full of civilians come out to see what sort of thing a siege is. The weather is getting intensely hot.

Letter 54 and 55. Scutari. May 9th 1855.

- - - I sd suppose now that the Turks have 40,000, the French 100,000, the Sardinians 15,000, we 25,000 men in the Crimea, making in all 180,000 men. -
- I wrote a line this morn and since that I have seen the brevet, and write now to say that I am dreadfully disgusted. They have promoted those who were Senior of their rank (Majors and Captains) in the actions. I am the senior surviving Captain who was at Alma, Jenyns not being there or Gore. At Balaklava, the 2 senior captains were shot, there was no field officer present, and of the survivors Jenyns the Senior was promoted at once, and I was the 2nd senior coming out of action. A brevet majority is an empty honour enough, but if others get it, it is not unnatural that I sd be rather disgusted at staying where I am. The naval expedition was abandoned, we hear, whilst they were actually off the place, which must have been an easy prey. Reason to us unknown. Round the corridors of this hospital they have printed in large letters and hung, copies of the Queen's autograph letter to Mrs. Sidney Herbert, expressing her interest in the sick and wounded. We are off tomorrow in the "Hansa".

Letter 56. Ramiesch [*Kamiesch*] Bay.. May 18th 1855.

- - - On the 12th May 1854 I left Portsmouth, and on the same day 1855 I arrived off Balaklava again for the 2nd campaign; which I hope and trust will amke a far greater impression upon the enemy:- and may I be permitted to weather the Storm equally well! We had a beautiful passage and were off Balaklava early of Saty mornng but the harbour was so full we were not permitted to enter, and we are now here, waiting our turn. Mrs. Estcourt came with us, and another lady; I like the Adjutant Genl's wife much. - - - Things do not seem to have progressed much. Our fellows are furious at the Kertch expedition being recalled; and seem to say Canrobert will be recalled, or at least severely reprimanded by Napoleon for doing so. Sir E. Lyons wished to go on, and let the French go home alone, but Sir G. Brown thought that wd not quite do. Some expedition or diversion somewhere must take place now. - The Sardines are arriving fast, and disembarking. They will eventually I hear take up a position between Balaklava and the village of Kamara; but not to do the French work. Sorties are frequent but always ineffectual. I today asked C. Morel the rule upon which the brevet was granted; and he is to find out for me, and let me know.

Letter 57. Camp nr Balaklava.. May 18th 1855.

- - - I believe that after all I shall get my brevet majority, as before my arrival here the injustice of the omission being so glaring, the Col. and other officers had applied for an explanation, and I have since written to the proper authorities. All hands from Estcourt who I have seen, down to the last-joined Cornet agree that I have been badly treated. It must have arisen from an oversight, as Generals, Cols, Staff &c. all have come to me to advise me to stir the authorities up. Estcourt and C. Morel came on board ship on Monday last, and I opened the trenches then. We disembarked on Tuesday, and marched from Ramiesch [*Kamiesch*] to this camp. 9 miles. Today we had a field day, and frightened the Cossacks. The hottest weather this year. The place is altered as regards the looks of the Camp. Many Turks, and Sardinians have thrown up new diggings. Nothing is known of future proceedings but rumours of a march inland are rife. Our advanced trenches are very near the town, and one of our pits is so near the Russians that the officers amuse themselves by charging soda water bottles with small bullets, &c. and putting in a small Cohorn fuse, and then throwing it by hand into the Russian trench. Our horses are much improved. My own are flourishing. I am now living in a hut, as the sun comes through a tent too strong. Many thanks, I want nothing from home. As to money; I have now to make up the accts of men dead or missing wh: will cost me 80£ about; but the charge is fair. My trumpeter whose wife you gave money to for me has just died in the hands of the Russians. He was a good soldier.

Letter 58. Camp nr Balaklava.. May 21st 1855.

- - - Oh! it is so hot. Our draft has arrived in the harbour, but not yet come up: it is coming up today. - - We (the Cavalry) are getting strong in numbers, and will soon be in a position to thrash our friends the Russians well in the open. My application, or rather my claim upon the Col's recommendation to a brevet majority has been favourably reported on at head-quarters and sent on to the proper authority at home. Mrs. Estcourt is still on board the "Hansa", but occasionally drives up to see her General, in a carriage we took from the Russians at Mackenzie's farm. Pelissier is thought a most energetic officer; and I fancy will be no bad successor to Canrobert. I like his (Canrobert) feeling much in offering to serve under Pelissier as general of division. I had a long ride with C. Cocks on Saty. He says he is quite well again. Rollo seems as strong and well as ever. Cholera has made its appearance in some of the regts lately arrived, but not in a very bad form. Fever is also prevalent.

Letter 59. Camp nr Balaklava.. May 25th 1855.

- - - On Tuesday night the French attacked in force upon the extreme right of the out-defences of the town; and inflicted considerable damage; but lost 800 men. The fire was tremendous. The next night (Wedny) they took a Russian parallel without much loss. Yesterday the Queen's birthday, we (the Cavalry) and the Horse Artillery and the 18-pounder battery were reviewed by Raglan. Pelissier, Canrobert, Omar Pacha and Skender Beg [*Skander Beg*] were there with many swells. It was a beautiful sight. This morning at 2 a.m. some French, the Sardines, and some Turks went out with our 10th and 12th Lt. Cavalry. They advanced upon Tchourgoum, drove out the Russians, and destroyed some redoubts, and small forts, and took some prisoners. We lost

nothing. We have taken up the plain in front, where the action was fought, again, and tonight we go out with one day's provision to relieve the 10th and 12th who are advanced beyond Kamara. We shall then most probably make a strong reconnaissance, or also effect a junction with the Kertch expedition, of whom as yet we have heard nothing. It is amusing to see the Sardines and some French encamped upon the plain again, and John Cossack no longer looks down on us from the hill, which our Commanders have allowed him to hold since the action at Balaklava. I went on picquet this morning; but the aspect of things was so altered and the front so extended that Raglan relieved us directly, - - - I hope you have by this time recd the parcel I sent in the "Simla". I have a looking-glass taken from Tchourgoum this morn, with which I hope one day to adorn my room in Half Moon St.

Letter 60. Balaklava.. Whit Monday 28th May 1855.

With a bunch of wild flowers, - - - This last move has, as I told you, greatly extended our front, and we have now all the scene of our battlefield, on the 25th October last to ride over. It is one mass of wild flowers, of endless variety. I enclose a few picked from off the spot where we came agst the guns. I hope to be able to enclose some seeds of different things, which tho' common perhaps have an interest as coming from the Crimea. I shall send some to Mary also; for tho' they will not do for so small a gardener as Townshend, they will suit Master Hugh's garden well. We recd the news of the Kertch business. 50 guns lost must be a sad blow to the enemy. Papers, on dit, were also found talking of want of provisions in Sebastopol, which was chiefly supplied from the line of Kertsch. Provisions in large quantity were captured there. Anapa I believe, is now destined for attack. It seems to have been well managed, and it is a feather in Sir Brown's (as the French call him) cap, to have done so much with so little loss. The men cheered like wild fire when they heard the order detailing the success read out. We had a sharp day's thunder yesterday with rain concomitant, but a hot sun today is drying up the Camp nicely. Rollo is one of the Kertch expedn in command of his regiment. I hope he may manage to come in for some harmless action with a good result, as it might affix C.B. to his name. At Kertch there was no opposition, so no clasp or reward will be given. Love to all &c. &c. Your affecte son Athrur Tremayne.

Letter 61. Camp nr Balaklava June 3rd 1855.

My dearest Mother. The thermometer is at 100 and anything; and from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. it is killing so please don't talk of fires. I have a slight attack of fever but I am getting much better and in a couple of days more hope to be out again. The Kertch expedition seems to have succeeded admirably. It has now I believe gone on to Anapa. A party started before day-break this morning to Baidar to cut off a convoy. They must be getting rather badly off for dinners in Sebastopol. We expect to commence the bombardment again immediately; our guns are nearer, and of larger calibre and I really believe an assault is intended this time. I - - - . Cholera has broken out, and the guards and Sardinians are suffering from it. I have not seen C. Cocks for a week. He seems wonderfully well. The plague of flies has begun here again with a vengeance. I think a move onwards after we have taken the town will be very welcome to us.

Letter 62. June 8th. Balaklava 1855.

- - - I yesterday recd your letter with additions by Ht.J and H. also the same post brought me one from M. so I have been pretty well supplied with family news. Your announcement of the winner of the Derby was the first information I recd. As the Electric Telegraph will have told you all before this, we opened fire on Wedny (6th) at 3 p.m. with larger guns, and at a shorter range than the last time. The Russians were apparently taken by surprise. Anyhow their replies were neither frequent nor well directed. We plied the mortars all night, and the guns again all Thursday; till about 6 p.m. when at a given signal (3 rockets from the picket-house in front of the Lt. Division). A simultaneous attack was made on the Mamelon and the quarries in front of the redan. The French undertook the former, we the last-named business. Directly the last rocket whizzed over the Mamelon, the Zouaves tumbled out over the trenches, with columns of line regts, and the Imperial Guard in reserve. They took about 7 minutes I sd say, crossing the plateau, and so complete was the surprise, that they were in and through the Mamelon, with scarcely a struggle. They were too wild however, and pursued up to the Malakoff, and the Russians coming down in force drove them back, through and over the Mamelon again, and took it; and held it. The fighting lasted long after dark as the prickly flashes all round the Malakoff tower showed that there was lots of musketry. Our men, the Light and 2nd Divisions took the quarries in 15 minutes, and are there now. The 88th got excited, and rushed on to the Redan, without orders, where, not being supported, they suffered much. I have just come down from the front. The French are working like bees in the Mamelon, and the Ships making very bad practice at them. The quarries full of our red-coats look like a component part of the redan, they are so close to it. In this business 62 guns, 400 men, and 12 officers prisoners, have fallen into the hands of the allies. The Turks were not engaged. Our loss is I fear considerable but the impression we have made is invaluable. On dit, the Malakoff and the Redan are to fall tonight or tomorrow. Pelissier is in high spirits. The fire was something tremendous; and after dark, the scene magnificent. - - Ht. seems indignant at Ln. and Cn. swaggering about London. They are both imposters especially Cn. but please don't send them out here again. I wish they wd move us all round upon the north of the Town, and finish the first act of the campaign. It is lovely weather for the field now, but rather hot. Love to all yr very affecte son Arthur Tremayne P.S. I shook off the fever and came out in time to see the fire opened. It was only a mixture of Sun and ship sherry.

Letter 63. Camp nr Balaklava. June 15th/55.

- - - I rode with C. Cocks yesterday, to the French Cavalry, who have a camp in the vale of Baidar in a most lovely spot. They have some advanced posts pushed on almost to Alouchta [*Alushta*] where Woronsoff's villa is; that, of course, they have plundered. The Kertch expedition has returned, not having lost a man by shot. The Russians are suffering for want of grub; and a deserter (an officer) described the state of Sebastopol to Genl Estcourt as something awful. Our fire has ceased until the French have armed the Mamelon, when another row will commence. I think a few weeks will see the

Russians out of the Crimea. - The Guards and Sardinians are suffering from cholera. The weather is intensely hot.

Letter 64. Balaklava. June 18th/55.

- - - No more laurels for this our Waterloo day!! The electric telegraph has told all of course by this time. At 2 a.m. this morning we marched up to keep the reserves clear; and as I fondly hoped to be at hand to catch and escort prisoners, but there are two sides in every war. The original plan was this. "Fire to open at daybreak, and after 3 hours the French to attack the Malakoff; when taken a blue flag to be hoisted; upon which we were to attack the "redan", At 3 a.m. a sortie of the enemy upon the Mamelon began the day rather prematurely. The Russians had every information of our plans, and even our private signals. After a short time during which the French got no ground; a blue flag did appear in the Malakoff, Russian of course. Into the Redan went our dear good fellows, and met such a fire of shell, grape, and round shot, that a lodgement was rendered impossible. Sir J. Campbell the Genl. fell, placing a ladder in the ditch. Col. Yea cheering on his regt the 7th was wounded, his last cry was "Forward Fusileers", when another shot killed him. The 57th fought as they fought at Albuera; their Col. and others were killed. The 34th officers are nearly all hors de combat, as their men confessedly hung? Columns and columns of Russians pushed the Allies back at all points, their ditches, abatis and engineering beat us; they were commanded well; and the Allies on their side fought like heroes, but thanks to the muddleheadedness of orders, &c. complication of contingencies, celebrated the 18th June by being repulsed. May R. live to know my opinion of him? I have seen some comg. officers of line regts today, who say, that plan, plot, or system was never thought of in the attack. Bosquet, on dit, has gained the heights of Mackenzie's farm without loss; he will menace the line of Inkermann. Investment is our speedy plan; or else let send to some foreign country for a Comr in chief. Radcliffe, a great friend of mine, was through the business; and thank God escaped unhurt. He describes the scene in front of the Redan as something quite infernal. The fire was awful. The Highlanders and Guards were not engaged. I saw Cocks and Rollo tonight. - - - A good time will no doubt please God! eventually come. In the meantime we have a brave enemy, splendidly commanded, with first-rate engineers in front of us. Send us, England, a Commander in Chief! At 1 a.m. this morning I counted on being in Sebastopol at 9. Now at 10 p.m. we are exactly in the same position as we were after Inkermann. Where are the new men to come from? Our loss is not known. It is great in officers. The French have lost 6000 men. Love to all. Your very affecte son Arthur Tremayne.

Letter 65. Camp nr Balaklava. June 21st 1855.

- - - I am afraid you will wait a long time for the amendment of the Brevet. A letter came from the Horseguards yesterday, stating that my name had not been sent in, in the list. They referred to Genl. Scarlett who happened to be in England, who begged then and there to recommend me; but the Commr. in chief considered it too late. Col. Doherty avers that he did send my name, and my name only in; and that it must be a mistake of the Brigade Majors. He however is a gt friend of mine, and is not all likely to have overlooked me. - - - Oldham commanded us on parade in the morning of the action of Balaklava,

and marched us off. He was shot, as was Goad the next, and Jenyns the senior survivor brought the Regt. out of action, and was recommended by Ld Lucan, as the officer comg 13th Lt. Drags. and consequently promoted. The names of the 2d officers being called for, Doherty declares he sent mine in. - - - I intend to have another shy at them, as the injustice is so glaring. The regiment are furious with him. Is not this way of doing business encouraging to one who has worked his hardest all through? - - - Time will show whether routine and red-tapism will deign to correct their own mistake. Nothing done here since the disastrous 18th - an armistice on the 19th to bury the dead; since which the old story. The Guards and Highlanders go to the trenches now; this new work to them, and being a little nervous, they shoot each other a little. There will be a lack of Generals soon I sd say. Sir J. Brown is sick. Genl Pennefather very sick. Codrington do. The two latter the best we have. If we live I suppose we stand a chance of seeing England again before 1859, but not much. Henry's friend F- has gone back to England disgusted I suppose with the aspect of things. B- H-n after a month of fever &c. left yesterday for a month;s change of air on the Bosphorus, Therapia I believe. We are by no means free from Cholera, which generally attacks the new arrivals. Your very affecte son. A.T.
Genl Estcourt is very bad with cholera, (died on the 24th June M.B.)

Letter 66. Camp nr Balaklava. June 25th 1855.

- - - Nothing new under the sun here, except a storm which came upon us in this valley on the night of the 23rd. I say in this valley because all the Camps on the Plateau above Sebastopol escaped it. It came on about 8 p.m. accompanied by thunder and the most vivid lightning, so continuous as to render the night like day. In my hut I escaped discomfort pretty well. Some of the sunken huts reported 4 feet of water. Neglected drainage was the cause. The H. Arty stayed in their mess-hut till their water spaniel had to swim, when they left it. The storm came off V-'s hill, and choked up the drains by the road. The 4th Dgn Gds lost saddles, arms, &c. wh: floated down the river like straws. The tents inhabited by the division clerks (Assistn. Adjutt Genls &c.) went away bodily; papers, returns &c. going with them. The Carabineers had one tent left standing. Some Turks were drowned. I never knew before what rain unaccompanied by wind can do. Poor dear Genl Estcourt died yesterday morning and was buried at 7 a.m. today. His funeral was private; so I did not go. C. Cocks did. He is going to Therapia with Mrs. and Miss Estcourt, who are wonderfully well. The siege woks in front are proceeding according to form by sap. Genl Brown, Codrington & Pennefather are ill; the latter so much so that he will never serve here again. Col. Yea is universally regretted. I fear the bill for killed and wounded will be a large one this month. They continue to throw grape upon our men in the Cemetery taken by Genl Eyre; but we have relinquished the most open part of it, still holding the rifle-pits. Cholera is not on the decrease. Most cases however prove to be from neglected diarrhoea. I am sorry my trifling presents have not reached you. Do write to Captain Dashwood. Thank John for his letter and his box wh: has not yet arrived. Genl Scarlett is expected in a day or two, and I intend asking his advice about the omission of my name in the brevet; and intend to abide by his decision. Wd you send me some things I cannot get out here? - - - Some tea and a few novels, and some bacon wd render me independent of the world at large. I saw Rollo and C. Cocks today, all well. P.S. Send a little arrow-root.

Letter 67. Camp nr Balaklava. June 29th.

- - - Poor Ld Raglan died last night at 9. Mental anxiety more than any corporal ailing, I fancy, hastened his end. Times [*Tempus?*] fecit. One cannot help sorrowing for so kind a man and perfect a gentleman, tho' his talents, as a Commr in Chief were not brilliant. His body goes home in the "Caradoc". - -
- - Monel will join Mrs. and Miss Estcourt at Therapia, when he has settled the Genl's affairs here. C.Cocks then returns. Genl Scarlett and Col. Lawrence returned today. The former met Jenyns and told him he thought my case as regards the brevet a hard one; and to come to him about it whenever I liked; so I shall tell him my story tomorrow. I had a sharp affair with my inside yesterday, and which I conquered after 5 hours, having burnt all the skin off my stomach with turpentine. This morning thank God! I am all right again, and at my duty. We have a draft in the harbour 57 horses, 33 men, but no officers!! Why they will not send out some of the depot drones I can't make out. One more of our small band is going home directly having gone through his 2nd fever - young Chamberlayne. I will go one day, and get you some seeds.

Letter 68. Camp nr Sevastopol. July 2nd 1855.

- - - No news here! Quite the old story; digging and sapping with a certain number of men killed in the trenches or working parties; but the thing progresses. You seem anxious about the Brevet. Genl Scarlett sent for me directly upon his arrival here and asked me about it. I told him all about it; he was very indignant and wrote a letter for me to the Mil: Sect to be forwarded to the Comr in Chief; but I think it was much too late. Lawrenson has arrived and takes command of one brigade of Lt Cavalry, two to be formed. He has appointed Jenyns Brigade Major: - which militates agst my chance of commanding the depot' which I sd most likely to have gone home to do, upon the arrival of another Captain in the Crimea. Thank John most heartily for his box; which I got 2 days ago - quite the appropriate things. I hope the things I sent from Pera have come to hand. It don't do sending things by private hand. We were to have gone to Baidar today for good; but Cholera has broken out so badly among the 10th Hussars out there that we don't go; and they are recalled. Ld Raglan's body is taken Ramiesch [*Kamiesch*] tomorrow. 50 men from each regt of Infany and 8 squadrons of Cavalry escort it. - - - - Ask M- to remeber me most kindly to the Nicholls. Young S-- I hope has gone into the 1st not 2nd Life Guards. In the 1st he will get good officers and good discipline; the real secret of comfort in a corps; in the 2nd he will find a yeomanry style of business rather. I get the Observers regularly. Poor Coote Buller! - - I fear he will never walk again from M's account. - - I never cross the scene of the action of Oct. 25th without thanking God for my deliverance. I must have walked a mile at least under fire. We think Sir Colin will be Comr in Chief. He gets on wonderfully well with the French; an immense point! There was a talk of some regts not behaving well on the 18th - all behaved well, the 34th and 57th especially. A letter of July 6th mentions Mr. Hutchinson's death from a relapse of fever on the 2nd. "He was more like a brother than a friend"

Letter 69. Camp nr Balaklava. July 9th/55.

- - - The Turks and the 10th Hussars have come in from Baidar; and this morning the Sardinians and French were attacked from Tchourgoum {Tchurgoun}. I have heard no particulars; but I sd fancy it was merely and outpost skirmish. Jenyns has had a sharpish attack; almost cholera. I am doing his duty as Brigade Major; wh: is a change from the perpetual regimental work; though one has a great deal of work to get through. We have a draft at last. Men and horses sent from Maidstone; such dirty, undrilled new recruits I never saw. Horses not so bad. Yesterday was hot, 106 whilst we were at church parade, the thermometer touched. Today is as warm. I believe the French force here is much overstated and that leaving a sufficient army to hold the siege works here intact, we sd not be a strong force if we made a move up the country. I candidly own that the next time we go into action; I hope to see some of our redcoats with us. French are good fellows, and I believe Sardinians, but a support of "bono" is very bad fun. I shall begin to make winter preparations soon without something happens. The time does slip away fast.

Letter 70. Camp nr Balaklava. July 13th/55.

- - - Last night I got your letter of the 28th. Mrs. and Miss Estcourt were with the Genl at headquarters 2 or 3 days before his death, and continued there until after his death. I am sorry to hear that poor Dashwood returned to so much domestic affliction. He was in the Troop of H. Arty. originally; that was with our brigade always; and which lost so many men at Balaklava. In last night's orders Genl Barnard was appointed chief of the Staff, and Genl Marham is to command the 2nd division in his place. He (Marham) is expected daily from India. He is a good soldier, and a pushing, fire-eating sort of a chap. In front, the French are working away at the sap up to the Malakoff, and have got to within 150 yds of the abbatis. Near the redan we are prolonging our trench from the quarries. The casualties every day are numerous. Two days ago we fired at the redan for 5 hours and shut it up again. It had been annoying our working parties rather seriously. In this front, the French are hay-making; viz: they go out with 4 o5 squadns of Cavly, and some light field-guns; and make the Tartars cut the hay in the Baidar valley. Our people go with them sometimes, they have never seen more than 2 or 300 of the enemy out there. Cocks has not yet returned from Therapia. - - Spare afternoons we engage now in pic-nics at the Monastery. It is a lovely spot, and away from all the noise, glare and dust of the well-worn vicinity of the Camps. Some part of the building they have converted into a hospital for sick officers. We patronise one of the terraces overlooking the sea, under a large walnut tree, close to a well. A sirocco yesterday, finished 5 or 6 days of excessive heat: and this morning was ushered in by a little rain, always a blessing here.

Letter 71. Camp nr Balaklava. July 21st/55.

- - - I have been riding out towards the East lately nearly as far as I cd go. One day I got through Baidar; and the next I started again; and pushed to a place about 17 or 18 miles from here. You will see it marked in the map, "The Phoros Pass". One follows the Woronzoff Road all the way, and after leaving Baidar, you ascend through a thick plantation for some distance; hardly

dreaming you are near the sea; but at the top of the hill a sudden bend brings you thro' a substantial archway; a douane I sd say; and immediately in front of you there is certainly the finest view, I ever saw. It is a most lovely bay. The cliff now being washed by the sea; but a precipitous hill is under you with about ½ a mile of flat between it and the sea. The cliff is covered with trees and shrubs of all sorts; and the flat land is like a garden. A picket of "Chasseurs de Vincennes" at the arch rather added to the scene; and a French war-steamer was just off the land, keeping a sharp look towards Yalta. There is a pass "the Devil's pass" further on, wh: is tunnelled through the rock. I hope to reach that some day soon. This side of Baidar is rather a nice shooting-box, now inhabited by Cuirassiers who have not improved the furniture, though they have adorned the walls with frescoes. The French have continued to arm the Marmelon [*Mamelon*]; and the works between it, and the harbour very heavily. We are ready; they will be in about 10 days, I believe. They are close down to the harbour now. Genl Vinous [*Vinoy*] yesterday was breakfasting on fish that his men had caught there; whilst the Russians were dozing.

Letter 72. Camp nr Balaklava. July 28th/55.

- - - The box sounds beautiful; all things sent through Hayter & Howell arrive after some time; so it is perhaps the best way to send things. I will get the seeds M. asks for. - - - - T went to the Phoros Arch again yesterday. We have 400 men at Baidar now. I hope they will relieve them next week, and that I shall go out. It is a land of milk and honey literally; two things scarce enough in Balaklava. The Tartars have by degrees resumed their old shops; and drive a busy trade in small things. A boatswain's mate of the St. Jean d'Acre has made a flat boat; in which he is to put 100 lb. of powder; get under the Stern of the 12 Apostles (the big ship in the harbour that fires so much) affix the powder, and blow her up. He made an experimental tour the other night, and went all round their ship without being seen. He and Keppel his Captain are confident of success. It seems too intricate a plan to succeed, and has been talked of so much that the Russians are sure to hear of it. I have bought a horse for 60£. - - - - A gt friend of mine Purcell who is now at the depot says he is going to be married and sell out. The regt. is getting quite changed - all old friends going or gone!

At this time (Aug. 20th) Maria opened a box that Arthur had sent home in April under Capt. Dashwood's care - but in consequence of scarlet fever being in the house, it was not thought prudent to have the box till time had elapsed. In the box was a letter from A. dated Scutari April 23rd.

My dear Mother. I have a chance of sending a few things home by the "Simla", so I send some little things I bought in the Bazaars. I much regret I cd not get a smaller pair of slippers, so as to have fitted little Hugh. The contents of the box are as follows: 3 prs of slippers. The little bracelet has Turkish piastres in it equal to 2 pence each. The tablecloth has the Sultan Abdul Medjid's cipher in the centre and some words from the Koran. The muslin scarf has verses from the Koran round it. The small bag wh: is meant for a Tobacco bag will be a charming receptacle for your keys and sundries. Distribute the things as you please. - - - - Your very affecte son A. Tremayne.

P.S. The flask made in imitation of a pistol was the property of a Russian officer who we rode down in our charge. Keep that for me. I have just read yr letter of the 12th. Greatrex the new Cornet is a great friend of mine.

Letter 73. Camp nr Balaklava. Aug 4th/55.

- - - August announces itself to us by streams of very hard rain, which in a few hours converted the camp into a morasses; but we have now got the hot sun back again; and everything is freshened by the rain. In the middle of the rain, arrived our draft from England. The Russians made a strong sortie 2 nights ago, but got well thrashed, losing 200 men. I believe the next bombardment will begin with the grouse shooting on the 12th. In spite of hot sun and hard ground, cricket has become fashionable. I am glad to see Ld John has resigned. I think the govmt has behaved in a way the reverse of straight-forward. I was very sorry to hear the fate of poor little Strip - - - There all sorts of rumours about our winter quarters. I myself think that we shall stay where we are, and hut ourselves. Others say that the Cavalry will go to Scutari, Cairo, or Alexandria, where there is plenty of forage and good stabling. I hope the Infantry will have the South side of the town to live in. The idea of winter trenches again for them is too shocking. My ink is thick Turkish, and my pen a veteran, so I can hardly get along at all.

Letter 74. Camp nr Balaklava. Aug 5th/55.

To myself. - - - Having written to Mother last mail I write now to you, but strange to say that in the middle of an army of about 160,000 men, I have nothing worth recounting. The 12th is the day most people fix upon as the most probable one for the bombardment to commence. The fire this time will be something awful; the Marmelon [*Mamelon*] and works to its right being heavily armed; and heavy metal advanced farther all along the line than last time. How many bombardments have we seen? I'm sure I forget! From what we can learn from deserters and others there are works behind the Redan, and the Malakoff, and most probably lines of defence 2 or 3 feet deep, inside the garden and Barrack batteries; and so along the line. I fear the loss of life, if we can take it, must necessarily be very great. In the open we shall one day pay them off a long score. There, there is no doubt of our success, but we all must confess that they out-general, and out-engineer us, in the siege. Their sorties are always ineffectual. The weather is again awfully hot. Today a regular screamer. We are again a respectable regt. numbering 265 horses, and some 350 men, with 4 Captns and 1 sub, only doing duty. The Depot all the time teeming with lazy brutes of officers. I have seen Robson in Plot and Passier. - - - I have one horse; a short legged, useful active gentleman named the "Zouave". The friend Neville of the Fusileers is going home, with Sir R. England, who retires with a G.C.B. Quite useless he was as a General!!

Letter 75. Camp Balaklava. Augst 10th/55.

- - - I got yr letter of the 27th today, and by the same mail an advice from Hayter & Howell of the parcel. Lots of firing today and the Russians sent some shot through the tents of the 4th Divn. near Cathcart's Hill. We are very strong now, 263 horses and more on the road; lots of drill to get the young hands into form. An action now wd be a fine thing for me, if I got out of it, as

Doherty commands the 2nd line of the Lt. Brigade; and consequently I the regiment. The Baidar party are to be called in; as the forage is all collected. They have taken a lot of champagne from all the country houses round; fine spoil! We are going to erect in the plain wh: we charged, a monument to those who fell on the 25th October, and also at Scutari a head stone to poor Hutchinson. I had a heart-broken letter from his sister this week, - - - Our recruits are sickly, 60 in hospital and 5 dead in the last 3 days. Cricket is the fashionable amusement now, on a dry dusty ground; and after a long innings, you see the fellows pick their things up, and go off for the trenches for 24 hours, of another sort of ball practice. The casualties are numerous in the trenches. Mystery hangs over the next attack. Rumours are not so rife as in Ld. Raglan's time.

Letter 76. Camp nr Balaklava. Aug. 13th/55.

- - - There was an attack expected here this morning and we were turned out at 3 a.m. to await our enemy, but none appeared. The idea was that a real attack wd be made here, and a diversion or feint along the line of trenches. The French guard was doubled, and down here some 4000 [400] English cavalry with lots of guns; Bosquet's division of French; the Sardinians aid the entrenchments: tetes du pont &c. wd have proved a formidable obstacle to troops trying to force the line of the Tchernaya. Luders is supposed to be somewhere handy with his reinforcements: detachment of 400 have come in from Baidar; having chiefly distinguished themselves there by a consistent system of plunder. Arn-chairs, and pictures; with some champagne, were the most coveted spoil. I think they will make some attempt on our lines soon, when they will get a good downright licking. There is a rumour of a gun-boat having been taken in the Sea of Azoff - true, I fear. Simpson and Pelissier keep their plans secret. and rumours of a bombardment have fallen to the ground. - - - The King's Drag: Gds. and Carabineers have arrived, and add to our force considerably. We muster ourselves 300 horses; but I regret to add have 88 men nearly all recruits, in hospital. - - - The weather is very hot.

Letter 77. Camp nr Balaklava. Aug. 17th/55.

- - - Times are stirring. The expected attack upon the place came off yesterday; when the Allies were completely and entirely victorious. At 3.30 a.m. we turned out, and advanced (Lt. Brigade in front) to the plain in front of the bridge leading from Tchourgoum; which the enemy never attempted to force, so except the whistle of a few chance shells nothing prevented me from enjoying the view of the action, as if I was in a private box. They attacked the Sardinians under Kamara, and the French on two faces one under Tchourgoum and another column on the side of the river facing Inkermann heights. They crossed over to the Sardinians, who rallied, and drove them back with the bayonet. Twice they tried to force the French side, and twice the Zouaves drove them back with immense loss; and taking a good number of prisoners. The shape of the ground was against the use of Cavalry. We sd have had to have crossed the aqueduct by a narrow bridge, and then forded the river with a steep hill (which was armed with 16 guns) and a narrow lane in front. The order was given, but again counter-ordered. The French loss was comparatively with the Russians trifling; ditto the Sardinians. I went over the field in the evening; the Russians wer very thick; and several officers

among the dead. One general with 3 decorations was shot. They had brought pontoons down, all of which we have got. Their loss is here computed at 5000 killed and wounded, and 1200 prisoners. I am glad the Sardinians entered so well. They are very cheery. No English infantry were engaged; but our 32 pounder howitzer battery made good practice; getting range immediately, and and knocking one of their batteries about like nine-pins. It was an action particularly remarkable for the preponderance of Artillery work; the ground being so favourable for it. A bombardment began against the town this morning. Whether it is to be kept up I know not. I hear our batteries have suffered a good deal. We hear that Sveaborg has fallen. Love to all &c. &c.

Letter 78. Camp nr Balaklava. Aug:24th/55.

- - - Since the battle of the Tchernaya we have been kept constantly on the alert; as deserters say that, *coute qui coute* the Russians mean to attack again. If they do, they cannot fail to meet with a severe thrashing; a finish to their schemes. We are saddled at 3 a.m. every morning; and whenever the outposts observe any unusual stir in their front, we are in the plain in front of Balaklava by 4, for 2 or 3 hours, until a reconnaissance has been made. Nights consequently are rather short. I have been doing duty as Brigade Major again, Jenyns having been badly kicked. He has returned again to his duty. I am now in command of the regiment; Doherty being sick. The health of the recruits from England is far from good. Cholera has reappeared; but not in a malignant form. It is very hot, and I trust a few cool days will thin the sick list. All our officers, save Clayton, Jervis and myself are sick. The Russians, we hear, are arming the Tartars; they must be desperate. The Tartars hate them like poison. The fire in front is very heavy; and the French sap is close up to the Malakoff. Russia will soon have a fall. Ld Stratford de Redcliffe comes tomorrow to invest the G.C.Bs and K.C.Bs with their insignia. I had a visit from Soyer today. He has formed a kitchen near the 1st division, a model soldier's cookhouse. He has done a deal of good in teaching men how to make a little go a long way, and to economise fuel. - - - Napoleon has telegraphed an order to his troops thanking them for the victory of the Tchernaya; and he promises to relieve his regiments who were here last winter by fresh ones who "*brulant*" to come here. A good thing for the old hands, but if Sebastopol does not fall previously, a bad thing for the siege. He also speaks as a certainty of the bad state of the Russian army, and Russia generally.

Letter 79. Camp nr Balaklava. Aug: 28th/55.

For the last two mornings we have been allowed some sleep; previously to that, we had been turning out at 3 a.m. as deserters, prisoners and all, agreed in the same story that we were to be attacked in strong force. It seems pretty certain that they will come on once more; a grand attack along the line of the Tchernaya; and if successful at all, a sortie in the trenches. I don't see how it can be successful, and if they receive such a thrashing as they did on the 16th, it must do a deal towards to end of the campaign. The Highland brigade have marched from the front, and are now beyond Ramara [*Kamara*], where the brunt of the business is likely to be. Rollo is gone home. He kindly came over to see me, the day he left. The Russians have finished their bridge over the harbour; I say it is to shell on to it; I say it is to retreat over. We have already

got its range, by dropping a shell on to it; but I fancy it is not to be molested until the regular bombardment begins. Firing day and night is now pretty heavy. I have been performing a variety of duties lately. I commanded the regiment until Doherty got well again; upon which very day, Jenyns was kicked on the leg, and I have since been doing his duty as Brigade Major. I dined with the Brigadier last night (Ld G Paget) he is quite delighted at having found one paper that does not abuse him. He is the best general officer of Cavalry out here; and always as cool as a cucumber. Most exaggerated stories about this next attack are rife. Some say the Emperor himself is at Bakshiserai, with an enormous force. Some that the Tartars are all armed with scythes &c. and are to march at the head of the advancing columns with white crosses on their heads. They can't mean more mischief than they did on the 16th; and it is not likely they will be allowed to do more. The K.C.Bs were invested yesterday by Ld Stratford de Redcliffe; a pretty sight. Escorts, guards of honour, bands, &c. I did not go, not being a K.C.B. or fond of dust. We have had a pretty plan for the Monument over our Balaklava comrades drawn by Simpson Colnaghi's artist. We are going to erect one at Scutari to poor Hutchinson.

Letter 80. Camp nr Balaklava. Aug: 30th/55.

- - - I got a West Briton from you tonight directed to Capt Tremayne so it appears you did not see my promotion until the post had left. I returned to camp from a ride this morning, and was hailed by all hands as "Major" much to my surprise. John Dowie was here this afternoon looking very well. He had only landed about 2 days and was going his tour of inspections. There was a frightful explosion on Tuesday night or rather Wedny mornng about 1.30 a.m. It appears the door of the Magazine in the Marmelon [*Mamelon*] was open; they were either putting powder in, or had left it open through carelessness. When shell from the Malakoff dropped outside and rolled in, blowing the Mag: of course to rags; and putting 140 men hors de combat. The noise was terrific. In old times (6 months ago) a sortie wd have immediately followed, but the Russians seem to lately to have declined the amusement. I think they do not mean another attack on the line of the Tchernaya immediately. They seem to have withdrawn their troops towards the Belbeks. Our Sardinian outposts extend some way beyond Tchourgoum. The weather is lovely, and I hope we shall manage a thunderstorm tonight to lay the dust. I have not seen a drop of rain for an age. What capital news about Sweaborg [*Sveaborg*]! Holy Russia must assuredly be in a mess this time. Our works are progressing admirably and in a very short time, the old flag must be floating over the devoted town. Their grenadiers of the guard have arrived.

Letter 81. Camp nr Balaklava. Sept. 3rd 1855.

- - - The way you heard about my promotion was certainly funny enough. The immediate advantages are 2s a day more field allowance whilst on service and of course exemption from Captain's duties in the field, such as these nasty picquets; Field officers only going on picquet with a strong party detached in case anything else happens I am a step higher up the tree towards further advancement, or even if peace was to be made a certain number of years wd make me a Lt.Col. If I wished to retire now I might go on half-pay taking the substantive rank of major. I am glad you have the box from Constantinople all safe. - - - Things go on steadily here. It is known that they have a large force

assembled on the Belbek [*Belbec*] and they cannot feed them there for any continuance of time. I think it likely they may evacuate Sebastopol when the Malakoff falls, but there will be a hard tussle first. Their bridge over the harbour is completed. There are various rumours about our winter destination. The French Cavalry go to Varna, and Adrianople. Our Cavalry some say will remain here. I think it possible that 2 brigades will go away, leaving the regts that arrived in the Crimea here; and that Scutari or perhaps Alexandria will receive us. - - - I have a large stock of winter clothing by me that I have kept in store since last winter. - - It appears after all that Sweaborg is not so complete a smash as regards its batteries as we were led to suppose.

Letter 82. Camp nr Balaklava. Sept. 7th/55.

- - - I have just got yours and M's letter of the 22nd and am very glad to find that the contents of the box are approved of. I am much obliged for all the congratulations upon my promotion. Your box is arrived, and a charming arrival it is. - - - The sight of the tea did my heart (or stomach) good. - - - We continue to turn out at 4 every morning and if by 6 or so no enemy is visible, we turn in again. Some of the Sardinians have left Kamara, and gone up to the front (I fancy to act in reserve) the French have gone down stronger tonight than usual; and our divisions are to be all under arms at 5 p.m. I shouldn't wonder if something was intended. The fire all day has been very heavy. Two nights ago a shell or rocket set fire to a Russian two-decker which was entirely destroyed. In addition to being a good business, it was a very pretty sight. The town is much smashed, and I cannot help thinking that its days are nearly numbered. Poor Buckley of the Fusileer Gds, (a friend of mine) was shot last night whilst posting a sentry. The French have pushed a boyan [*boyau*] through the abbatis of the Malakoff, and established a rifle-pit inside. We are close up to the Redan, as close as the soil will allow us to make shelter. Our adjutant went home today in the "Indiana", sick. I have sent by him one of the charms that the Russians wear round their necks. This was on a poor fellow who was shot on the 16th in the action of the Tchernaya. It might be a curiosity at home.

Letter 83. Camp Near Balaklava. Sept. 10th, 55.

- - - After the toughest siege on record, Sebastopol is a smoking pile. All Friday the firing was very hard, and on Saturday morning, the roar of cannon was something indescribable. About mid-day, the French attacked the Malakoff, and being so close with their sap, got into it immediately with little loss. They lost greatly however in the assault on the Little Redan below the Malakoff, and the creek; and on their left towards the Bastion du Mât, and the quarantine fort, their loss has been enormous. We attacked the Redan, and after hard fighting, and being twice beaten back, got into it and held it for 3 hours, when ammunition failed the storming party, and they were obliged to retreat. The Highlanders were just going at it again, when the Russians sprung a mine in it, evacuated it. Fighting lasted till dark, and during all this time, the Russians had been employed sinking their ships, and burning their town. Directly we were dismissed from parade here on Sunday morning, I went up, and to my delight, saw the enemy in full retreat, and the town a ruin, defences and all. Our men were wisely I think held back by the General from

pursuit, the town being full of mines and arsenals. In fact, up to last night, there has been a succession of explosions, Forts Nicholas and Paul, at last making a tidy row. The Russians were yesterday congregated on the north side of the harbour in groups, looking on their pretty town. Our people's delight is unbounded. "no more trenches" is the cry. The French loss is terrific. Ours also is, I fear, considerable. The proportion of officers, as usual, is enormous. These recruits, there is no denying it, don't come on like the men of Alma and Inkerman; and hanging back, leave their officers exposed too openly. Genl. Windham's behaviour is described as something noble, beyond praise. To give you an idea of the scene here, as yet we can't find out who's dead, or alive. Bosquet is, I fear severely wounded. The scenes in the town yesterday were absurd. There are several prisoners taken, and there were a few civilians left in the town, and some old women. Our sailors and some French got hold of some liquor, and were soon in a most uproarious state. Picquets and other precautions were taken, but licence after a siege of 11 months, must be granted a little. I only hope none walked into the fire, or were blown up. There were some horses in good condition taken, and a fine cow. Everybody has some small bit of plunder, as a souvenir. One fellow had a doctor's weights and scales, with a Russian book of medicine. The soldiers were walking about with Russian coats and helmets on, and some had discovered cabbages which they had impaled on their bayonets and were marching off. Lots of guns are taken. Some nearly new. The Guards were in reserve and consequently hardly under fire. - - The above was written at 4 a.m. and now at 8 p.m, I finish it. I am just returned from the town. Such a sight I never saw. It is even now a lovely town, but battered to pieces; even its most remote quarters well nigh paved with round shot and shell fragments. A flag of truce was going on, and a small steamer had come over for the wounded. Three large buildings in the Karabelnaia (the suburb) were full of poor, suffering fellows who were given up to them; the town is completely pillaged. French are handy; and the English by no means backward. Zouaves are in high force, and the spirits the men are in make them behave like children. They wheel baby carts about, break windows, and frequently embrace. The redan is wonderful. Pits in it, made by shot, are so numerous, that it looks like a succession of shallow wells. Genl. Windham got in there at first, and found with him 12 officers and 3 sergeants, but no men. He says with two companies of officers he would have taken it at once. Fort Paul is a smouldering heap; Nicholas the same. I enclose some little flowers, Fuchsias and another, which I picked in a garden in the centre of the town. I took nothing else except some charts and maps. Various rumours are afloat as to the next move. Some say that we take the field, others that we go to Eupatoria. Others say that we remain in our places and let the coming winter harass the enemy. I think, myself, that the latter is the most probable. Had our loss not been so large, a forward movement would have been most advisable, but with an action staring us in the face directly we advance, for we have to force difficult ground, I think it will be decided to defend our present position only. And, after all, the great object is gained. I forgot to say that today I saw on the quays in Sevastopol two large packs [*parks?*] of guns (each as large as our walled garden) and most of them nearly new. All over the town, too, there are heaps of guns for us to send home as trophies of this most memorable siege. Should nothing further occur, it is settled that the Cavalry shall winter in the Bosphorus but we shall not move before the beginning of November, and much may happen ere that, Love to all, etc., etc.

Letter 84. Camp nr Balaklava. Sept. 14th/55.

- - - I can't tell you how interesting it is riding over the works at Sebastopol. They are wonderfully constructed, and even some which were constructed after we had broken ground, and under our fire are marvels of engineering art. Yesterday I went with Brig. Genl. Dupine and some other artillery men round the works I had not visited on Monday. We rode down through the Cemetery which Genl. Eyre's brigade took after such a struggle of the 18th of June. It was curious to mark how green the orchards and grass fields looked here for about 40 yards, the space between the Russian works and the Allied approach. The rest of the ground was cut up by shot, which with fragments of shell, made a very respectable pavement. We went through the town to Fort Nicholas, a wonderfully strong casemated fort facing Constantine, the guns of which had been taken out, and used for siege purposes. It was warmed throughout by stoves, one to every two embrasures, with the barrack room behind the guns. From one of the embrasures we had a long look at the Russians working about Constantine, and the earthworks above, about 1500 yards from us. They were working like bees at at something, but what we could not discover. We next rode through the town to the garden battery, which is on one flank of the Bastion du Mât; an almost impregnable place, where the French lost greatly, and failed. After the Bastion du Mât, we went to the Bastion Central, and on to the Quarantine fort, which is down by the Sea, the extreme right of the line of defence. There were lots of dismantled guns in these works, but the most curious thing was the small burrowing places for the men to sleep in or go into out of fire. We came home by the Cemetery which Pelissier had such a fight for on the 23rd of May, losing 1500 men. Nothing is known about our next move. I should think the winter would be their worst enemy now. They (the Russians) are throwing shell occasionally into the town, one killed Genl. Airey's horse 2 days ago, and we are making a mortar battery or so to bear upon them. It is the fashion to say they are calling their stick. From what I can see, they are making new batteries on the North side, and intend holding it. The bulk of their army must of course move off before the winter. Their steamers now are all disposed of. They sunk them themselves. The Captain of the Vladimin [*Vladimir*] came over when the flag of truce was going on; he spoke English fluently, said he belonged to three English Clubs, and that they all undoubtedly wished for peace, but that it was farther off than ever, Sebastopol being taken. They are naturally sore just now, but they certainly have made a most gallant defence. This day year the Allies just set foot in the Crimea. This Autumn is nothing like as fine as last. We have had for the last fortnight chilly days, cold nights, and frequent showers. Tell M. that I have not yet introduced myself to Pte. Bolt of the Innsks, but that I have today found out from one of their officers that he is alive, and bears a very good character. I will have a chat with him the first opportunity. We have the Queen's telegraphic despatch published today, thanking the troops for their conduct before Sebastopol. Very well worded, and much to the point. - - - Sweaborg was not half knocked about after all.

Letter 85. Camp at Balaklava. Sept. 21st/55.

- - - We have nothing more of a move into the interior so I suppose the idea is given up. I fancy however that if the weather is fine they might make a week's campaign or so; though what good it would do I can't imagine, as we should be saddled with a great number of Russian sick and wounded, which they would have to abandon. I often think that the people who write articles in the papers about detaching a force towards Simpheropol by way of the plateau MacKenzie, can know very little of the ground here. I was today on an eminence [*eminence*] held by the Piedmontese they have a look-out place, with a most excellent glass, and I took a good look at the Country for about the 160th time. It strikes me that no move could be made towards Simpheropol, without bringing on a general action in very disadvantageous ground to ourselves the first or second day. The other course, a flank march by Baidan [*Baidar*], would take too much time. The French have reinforced Eupatoria with Infantry and Cavalry. They presented us with our medals yesterday. I do not like them, nor the clasps. The clasps look like decanter labels, Port, Sherry, Madeira; Alma, Balaklava, Inkermann. I think I shall take the riband off mine and send the medal and clasps to you to take care of and to get my name engraved round the edge, as they are not much use out here, and the riband in the jacket is quite sufficient. I have had a ride through the Malakoff lately; it is quite amazing to see how close the French sap was up to it. I am told that the Russian loss is estimated at 20,000. Telegraphic orders arrived two days ago to stop Genl. Pelissier demolishing the docks, etc. What can be the reason? They can't be made available for us. The Buffs have taken up their quarters in the town, having marched in with colours flying, and band playing "British Grenadiers". Love to all.

Letter 86. Camp nr. Sebastopol. Sept. 24th/55.

- - - News I have none. The Russians seem to be working away on the north side, and have commenced a fire upon the town which though not by any means severe, renders it an unsafe residence, so the "Buffs" which were located there are to march out of their barracks, and the town to be garrisoned by picquets only. The French are busy getting guns into position, and I hear mean to open 40 guns upon Constantine, and hope to cause the Russians to blow it up. I think it is labour lost. A fire at such a distance cannot be sure enough to be very mischievous: they however suppose that the Russians will blow it up, should they think our efforts directed against it in particular. The fleet sailed three days ago, the sailors dressed in red jackets, to personify soldiers, and make the Russians suppose we were going to land a force to the north. They went along the coast to Eupatoria and have returned, so I suppose the ruse has not succeeded, i.e. Gortshakoff has not troops enough to obstruct a landing. Their position is reported strong on the MacKenzie heights. I think the winter will punish them as it did us last year. Our troops are employed in making roads. Stores of all sorts and luxuries are abundant for us. WE (the Cavalry) go to the Bosphorus in November. What an escape Td. [?] must have had! Thank God! he is safe through it. P.S. This Mail brought the account of the telegraphic despatch of the town, being received in London.

Letter 87. Camp nr. Balaklava. Sept. 28th/55.

- - - Thank M. for a letter from Sussex. - - - - We are doing but little here. The Russians fire a little from the north side and our Buffs have vacated the town. We fire occasionally, but I fancy it is not a very useful proceeding. We hear no more of taking the field, and as the nights are bitter cold, and I doubt much good would arise from doing so at so late a period of the year, I am just as well pleased. The 10th Hussars detachment at Kertch, managed to get into a scrap whilst foraging at some distance from their quarters, but cut their way out of it, like men, in a manner to excite the admiration of the Chasseurs d'Afrique, who were near enough to see but not to help. Genl. d'Allonville at Eupatoria has got into a village, and destroyed some Russian stores, to some amount we hear. We shall in all probability leave this for the Bosphorus during October; our our precise destination no one seems to know. - - - We have had a draft of 50 men, and one officer, a Mr. Macneill, by the Great Britain, which enables us to mount all our horses. It is the fashion to say the Russians are leaving the North side by degrees. If any, most of them must do so before the hard weather sets in. The town must have been mined all over. As late as yesterday, some of the Rifles, who were poking about the town, were blown up. An Anglo-French Commission is sitting upon the guns, material, etc., taken. - - P.S. it was just this time last year that we first broke ground in front of Sebastopol.

Letter 88. Camp nr. Balaklava. Oct. 6th/55.

- - - Yesterday we received an order to prepare ourselves for immediate embarkation for service. The destination is supposed to be Eupatoria, but nothing certain is known. Genl. d'Allonville is there with more than 1,000 (? 10,000) French cavalry, and some good Turkish infantry. D'Allonville is supposed to be one of the best Cavalry officers in Europe; and we, under him, may have a chance of the "Legion d'Honneur", should we have an opportunity of meeting the enemy on anything like fair terms. Only the Light brigade is to go, the Carabineers, 12th Lancers and 4th and 13th Lt, Dragoons under Ld. G. Paget. the ships are not yet arrived for us, but are hourly expected. The French have worked round towards the Belbek, and it is confidently reported that the Russians are in full retreat. C. Cocks was down here yesterday, looking very well. I do not think it probable that the Army will follow Gorshakoff up from hence also, should it be established that the north side is evacuated. This of course renders speculation as to winter quarters wild, but I fancy if we are pretty clear of Cossacks in November, we shall go to the Bosphorus. Ld. Hardinge has recommended to the Queen that my commission as Major should be ante-dated to the 12th Dec./54, so I shall gain many steps thereby. It will shortly appear in the Gazette, I suppose. Rain is getting a frequent visitor here, but I hope we shall have another spell of fine weather for our operations. Geneste, who was taken prisoner at Hango, is exchanged, and is here, having arrived from Odessa. We are to have a clasp with Sebastopol upon it, and to carry Sebastopol upon our appointments, etc. Love to all, etc.

Letter 89. Camp Balaklava. Oct. 7th/55.

- - I just write a line in great haste, to say that I have received an hour ago an order to embark in command of the first lot of the 13th, tomorrow at 7 a.m. on board the "Cambria". Our destination, though not as yet officially announced,

is generally supposed to be Eupatoria. It is, I fancy, not more than 6 hours distance from hence. We go by the Alma, and Kalamita Bay, once again. The others follow immediately. I by this post have written to Aunt Harriet, to whom I have directed my medal and clasps, as I had an opportunity of sending them to London and I thought they would more easily reach you, through her, than if I had given a direction to the first recipient. The French are making reconnaissances by Aitodor, and the valley of the Belbek, and the general impression that the Russians are retreating still prevails. I fancy they have scarcely time this year before the wet season comes on, to evacuate the Crimea with their guns and material. I should suppose that they had a line of defence pretty strong in the vicinity of Simpheropol or Baktshiserai, our wherever their depot is. The weather is getting lovely again, and the sun today was too strong for pleasure. I must say Goodnight, as I have work to do at 5 tomorrow morning. Love to all.

Letter 90. Eupatoria. Oct. 14th, 1855.

- - I landed here last night, with 150 horses. The rest of the regiment are not in sight yet. We came from Balaklava in about 10 hours easy steaming during Friday night. The 4th and Caribineers are now landing. I have pitched my new habitation in an old quarantine place, where the walls afford shelter for the horses. Walter Strangways is here with his troop, but has not landed yet. The town is very wretched, a picturesque Mevagissey with no grub in it, as Russian picquets stop supplies by land. About 30,000 Turkish Infantry, & 2,000 Turkish Cavalry are here. I called on the Pacha commanding the Turks, yesterday, and got through an amount of coffee and chibougnés. He could talk French, and was very energetic for a Turk, on the subject of the war. The Russians continue to retreat. The sufferings of the Tartars last winter were dreadful. They were literally without food. The garrison managed last week to intercept a Russian Convoy, and brought in oxen and muttons. We get our Salt prog. regularly, and the Ships in harbour shell out a few luxuries. I hope we shall soon be all disembarked and able to have one good shy at the Russians before the very hard weather. Pera is to be our winter quarters. Excuse the irregularity of this letter as it is written under difficulties. One great benefit of my new Camp that I leave my tent in the morning in a dress not quite calculated for the streets of London, and in 20 yards am in the Sea. You had better direct "British Army, Crimea) until I write again as all our mails come and go via Kamiesch.

Letter 91. Eupatoria. Oct. 16th, 1855.

- - - Since I last wrote the projected affair here seems to have grown greatly. The French are landing lots of Infantry and our Highland Brigade is coming. The whole of our Brigade is not yet disembarked, our headquarters are still all on board ship. Genl. d'Allonville seems to say that it will be an affair of 5 days or so in the direction of Simpheropol. I should like to meet the enemy there, lick them, and march to Sebastopol to embark for winter quarters. This is not a lively town. The few Tartars who are left are miserable objects. Last night a ship brought our letters from Ramiesch [*Kamiesch*], and I got one from you, and one from John, whose hand I have not seen for a long time; but it would have been useless to have written from Norway. - - - W. Strangways is camped close to me, and is messing with me, as his own Captain is not

disembarked. There was a strong light over Baktshiserai two nights ago. I hope a fire in one of their depôts. They are said to be in full retreat. The weather is lovely, rather too hot, but that makes the bathing doubly delicious. - - I shall send this off to the Diamond to send for me by the first opportunity, as there seems to be no regular mail.

Letter 92. Eupatoria. Oct. 20th, 1855.

- - - As there is a chance of a mail going tomorrow, I shall send you a line. I received yours of the 4th this morning, by which I see you meditate a visit to Cardew [*Carclaw*]. - - We go out on Monday for a 3 or 4 days reconnaissance. Some 12,000 French and Turkish infantry, about 2,000 Cavalry, and some artillery. Where we are the night passed off quietly, and next morning, the village being deserted by the inhabitants and affording shelter to troops, was kindly burnt by us, and we marched at 5 a.m., halting at Tannish about 9, where we were disappointed in getting water, and where we came upon a strong force of the enemy, between 50 and 60 Squadrons of Cavalry with guns, who followed the plan of the day before, slowly retreating before us. This game we followed up till about 4 miles N.E. of Sak, where we halted on a ridge, and they did the same on another, opposite. Today, we, the English Cavalry, with the guns, were the first line, and our H. Artillery galloping up, pitched about a dozen rounds into the skirmishers and supports: the Turks following suit on the left. The Russians responded slowly, and after 10 minutes the cannonade ceased. The Russians getting out of range. We lost no man, but our practice at first was right into them. Genl. d'Allonville halted for his Infantry here, which were to come up by a road you will see on the map leading from Eupatoria between the Lake and the Sea, and to have taken Sak first thing in the morning. It appeared however that Genl. Lafage had hesitated about attacking; had missed the wells, and his troops had been 30 hours without water, so of course were unfit for action. Here the day's work ceased, and we camped at Sak, a village I was in last year when we landed at Old Fort. We got no water even here to drink ourselves, much less the horses, who were without it from Monday noon until Wednesday evening when we arrived here, having burnt Sak, which was full of forage, and returned by the Sea-road. The Russian Infantry evacuated the place early in the morning before we came up, and we never saw them. A Captain in the Navy saw them from the mast-head of his ship take up a position in rear of the ridge held by their cavalry opposite us, where we could not see them: so had we attacked unsupported by Infantry, we should have caught a Tartar. By one of those sudden changes we have here sometimes, Tuesday a warm day, died off into a bitter night, a hard frost which, as the Land Transport had lost nearly all our tents, was not pleasant. To take one's clothes off on Wednesday evening, and bathe, after 3 days' watching, was very pleasant. We are to go again next week I believe. Tell John that in the short march by the Sea-road from Sak here, I saw quail, partridge, woodcock, wildgeese, and lots of hares, which the Bakis vainly chased. Love to all. Your very affect. Son. A.T.

Letter 94 [93] Eupatoria. Oct. 20th, 1855.

- - - We have just returned from our second expedition, without having tempted John Russian out of his entrenched position. We left this on Saturday with 3 days pork and biscuit with us, and marched by the sea road (on the sea

side of the lake) as far as Sak. There the Infantry separated from us, and took up a position facing the Russians out of range, whilst d'Allonville trotted us, and some H. Artillery away to the left, the Russians falling back according to custom, to their works. Arrived on the ridge opposite the Russian position, the artillery unlimbered and a sharpish cannonade lasted for a quarter of an hour. D'Allonville discovered that the Russians had 32 pounders in position, and lots of Infantry, to which we had nothing to oppose, except 9 pounders, and about 15,000 Infantry, their Cavalry also being stronger than ours. We did not suffer from the fire, as we supported our own H. Artillery, and the shot and shell managed to pitch over them, and not on to us. They only had one man, and 2 horses wounded. The French on the right of us had about 23 casualties, as they managed unluckily to come into action against heavy guns. From this skirmish, we all saw that unless the enemy could be drawn from his position, an inferior force like ours could do nothing, and we retired on Sak for the night, where one might have got a sovereign for a bottle of water. The horse had a little. Washing and cooking for man was out of the case. On Sunday we advanced again, and d'Allonville manoeuvred us most beautifully to try and tempt our friends. He left his Infantry at Sak, and took us a long way to the N.E. to prevail upon their cavalry to come at us, but it was of no avail, and we were at Sak again last night, returning this morning to a bathe, and in time to catch the mail. The nights out were cold. I believe no move is to be attempted here this year, but winter quarters are to be thought of directly. A day, however, alters plans immensely. - - - P.S. Amongst the allies here is a Circassian chief, who wears chain armour in action. Yesterday he looked like an old picture.

Letter 95 [94] Eupatoria. Oct. 31st./55.

- - - We hear nothing of Balaklava and Sebastopol doings now, but were today told the fleet was gone to Odessa. I hope they will blow it into little bits. The order came today for us to winter at Scutari. In about a week we hear, the embarkation will commence, and if the surf runs high, it will last over many days. There is a talk of another raid for one day only, not to sleep out, in a direction nearly north of this, where it is supposed the enemy have flocks and herds, guarded by some squadrons, which flocks etc., we would fain turn to our own use. I did my Eupatoria yesterday, by ascending a minaret, and surveying the town, and visiting the only green spot in it, the Jewish synagogue. It alone remains neat and clean, and undefiled by marauding allies. The Crimean Jews [*Karaites*] are a very peculiar sect, who embrace the Old Testament only, not holding to the Talmud, as other Jews do. They keep the feasts, Tabernacle, etc., and sacrifice more primitively than any others in the world. We have cold, raw weather now, and threatening rain, but nothing near as bad as this time last year. I fancy a general break-up will come soon, and snow and north wind will begin. It has been of great service to me, this expedition. D'Allonville is a good Cavalry general, and his tactics in the open steppes, with a retreating enemy, are most instructive. I don't believe however that they mean to leave the Crimea.

Letter 96 [95] Eupatoria. Novr. 3rd, 1855.

- - - We left this yesterday morning at 5 a.m. and had a long day's work, being 12 hours at it before we had finished. The English Cavalry were in advance,

and took up a position near the village of Guttshak, the French Infantry halting at Tchidam, and the French Cavalry at Timmen. We thus took up the attention of the Russians, who most likely supposed us to be on the way to Karagurt, on towards their own position, but we in the meantime detached 2 squadrons of the 12th Lancers, some French Hussars, 2 regiments Turkish Lancers and Baskibazooks from this town by way of Altchin to Tchston, where we had heard of flocks and herds. These they speedily found, and the Russian squadrons guarding them cut their sticks; so to us fell a good prey, viz. about 2000 sheep, 200 cattle, 16 camels, 60 ponies and the contractor himself, in his carriage. 30 large ricks of hay, and the village were also burnt. We returned here about 5 p.m., having burnt Tipmanal on our way back. The look of the country now is terribly desolate. It has evidently been a great corn country, but now there is nothing but barren steppes, and here and there one sees the miserable remains of some quondam flourishing village. Tipmanai must have been a large one, and Sak a small town. We have quite hot weather again, and I trust the ships to convoy us to Scutari will soon make their appearance. They do not treat us well as regards mails; we are now owed four, I think, there being no regular service between here and Balaklava. The wind has been south here lately, and we can hear heavy firing about Sebastopol. I doubt the Russians abandoning that position. They certainly will not until they have got their material, provisions, stores, etc., well towards Simpheropol. I was talking to Achmet Pacha the other day, who commands the Turks here, and he fancies from what he has learnt from the Tartars the whole road to Baktshiserai is fortified at intervals in addition to the works visible on the ridge near MacKenzie's farm. They are, however, driven from their stronghold, and certainly up here they have manifested a great repugnance to meet even an inferior force in the open, and I think that when the allied army is once set moving, a battle will be fought, which will be decisive. I cannot help thinking that the Russian Commanders know this and that this winter will see those clever specimens, the statesmen of England, requested to negotiate again. There seems to me to be a certain quantity of officers who remain firmly rooted to English soil; if I could see another Captain out here this winter, I might get a glimpse of you. Don't think it probable, but I shall try it on. We (the Light Brigade) intend to get up a pack of hounds this winter, which will, I fancy, astonish the stolid Turks, should we come across them when running hard. Every regiment out here nearly, boasts a cur or two, and when actually engaged sometimes in watching the Russians moving in front of us in the field one hears a hum through the ranks, caused by admiration at the efforts the regimental dog is making to catch a hare he has just found. These efforts are always unavailing, salt pork not being good for the dog's condition. The mail is going - I shall conclude for the present.

Letter 97 [96] Eupatoria. Novr. 10th, 1855.

- - - We got a mail last night, the first for many days. It only brought me one letter of yours, dated the 11th. We had papers up to the 20th. I am sorry to see that Sir W. Molesworth is so ill. We are expecting the ships every day, but they would be useless as yet, as for the last 5 days we have had a gale from the N.E. which renders our "house in the sand" no stable abode. Today is a cold, black north wind, and the sand penetrates everywhere, from your portmanteau to your potage. On Thursday, the French Dragoons gave us what they called "un ponche d'adieu", which was a soirée, where fraternization was

carried on to a tremendous extent. The room was beautifully decorated with swords, pistols, carabines, etc., and two bands were present. D'Allonville was present, and proposed the Queen's health, George Paget doing ditto to the Emperor. The Englishmen gave d'Allonville a regular ovation. The proceedings of the evening were simply that you walked about, and every Frenchman made you drink punch, or abominably bad champagne. I left about ½ past 10, but the orgie lasted much later. Before I left, an interchange of forage caps had taken place, and every Frenchman was howling "God save the Queen", as an accompaniment to the Englishman's idea of "Partant pour la Syrie", both tunes being, as given, much alike. We hear strange rumours from Balaklava that Sir C. Campbell has resigned his command. I always thought he had a bee in his bonnet, and should be sorry to see so nervous and fidgetty a man in chief command. Some of our men who were taken at Balaklava have returned, and speak highly of the Russian kindness. These are at Balaklava, so we have not seen them. My hands are so cold. Love to all. Your very affect. son. Arthur Tremayne.

This letter arrived at Sydenham, Novr. 30th, 1855.

Camp Eupatoria. Novr. 30th, 1855.

- - The transports for the Artillery have arrived, and this afternoon will see them all on board. W. Strangways is this minute engaged close by in embarking his division. I have no way of sending you a letter for more than a week. There have been two reconnaissances since then, and the French are out again this morning. On dit, the Russians are leaving the Crimea, and that the Czar was at Simpheropol for a day, where he held a council of war. Doherty has been on the sick list this last fortnight, and I have held the reins of office during that time. The Brigade yesterday a most complimentary order from Simpson, or Codrington rather, stating that d'Allonville had reported most highly of us, and that he was proud to have had command of such a brigade. The weather has been very changeable lately. Two bitter days and nights, which reduced one's sponge to a substance like iron, were succeeded by two hot days, and today is like our English June. Our ships will, I expect, arrive very shortly, and once here, with a little fine weather, we shall lose no time in embarking, as three men of war, the "Odin", "Terrible" and "Furious" are assisting. We got a large mail a few days ago, and one letter from you, in it, but not of a very recent date. My aunts were then with you; pray give them my love, and tell them I have very hope of invading the circle before next spring's campaign. Love to all, etc.,

Tremayne met Burghersh on 2nd February 1855 (Letter 36) and on 9th February, when "he took me in to lunch with F.M. Raglan" (Letter 37) and on 18th February, 1855 (Letter 39).

Letter 51 dated from Scutari on 18th April, 1855:- OK

"...As to Lord Lucan, I believe Ld R's order, never sufficiently explicit, was misconstrued by Nolan, but a Lt. Genl. has discretionary power; and a Vivian

or Anglesey wd never have sent 610 sabres agst an army in position; agst masses of Cavalry with guns in position, and infantry in front and either flank. Words of command from generals were as few and far between on that day as they were at Inkermann. Adye of the Artillery was asked by some civilians if any general rallied us and prevented us going too far.."

Letter 75 dated 10th August, 1855:- OK

"We are going to erect in the plain wh: we charged, a moniment to those who fell on the 25th October, and also at Scutari a head stone to poor Hutchinson. I had a heart-broken letter from his sister this week,.."

Letter 80 dated 30th August, 1855:- NOT OK?

"We have had a pretty plan for the Monument over our Balaklava comrades drawn by Simpson Colnaghi's artist. We are going to erect one at Scutari to poor Hutchinson.

Arthur TREMAYNE :

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THE 13th/18th ROYAL HUSSARS JOURNAL

Balaklava—A Participants Account

So many versions of the Battle of Balaklava, fought on October 25th, 1854, have been given and so much controversy having raged round the subject, I should like, on the chance of its being interesting to some of mine who come after me, to state what I remember of the day. I have been brought to do this now by a conversation with my old friend, Sir Evelyn Wood.

I was in the action in the first line of the Light Brigade charge, and I was for thirteen months encamped close to the field of battle, so I venture to trust somewhat to my memory. Before dawn on the 25th of October, the Field Officer of the day, Major Lowe, 4th Light Dragoons, going to the advanced picket, found the enemy was advancing on the East slope of Canroberts Hill. Lord Lucan and Sir Colin Campbell were also well up the valley South of the Causeway Heights, seeking for intelligence. Two flags on Canroberts Hill hoisted by the Turks holding it showed the enemy was advancing. It was a prearranged signal. They (the two Generals) sent back for us, the Cavalry. We were always mounted and ready before daybreak and the Light Brigade went up the South valley at once.

The Turks were then leaving Canroberts Hill and shortly afterwards they left the so-called forts on the Causeway, coming back across our front. If I remember rightly, our troop of Horse Artillery had to retire for want of ammunition, and there was nothing to answer the guns on Canroberts Hill brought up by the Russians, except some guns on the heights East of Balaklava Town, which were at a too long range. They were guns of "Position" and I think served by the Marine Artillery. The retirement of the Light Brigade from Canroberts Hill, up the South valley, was by alternate squadrons, and trying. The men behaved extremely well and we suffered small loss. We took up a position West to Kadikoi, and shortly afterwards moved up towards the Causeway Heights, taking ground to our left. From that position we saw the Russian squadrons come over the Woronzoff Road and advance upon the 93rd, drawn up in line at the entrance of the gorge leading into Balaklava. The attack was not driven home.

Next a larger force advanced over the Road, and came down the South valley towards the Heavy Dragoons. The Russians for some unaccountable reason decreased their pace as they came on, and at last came to a halt before the Heavy Brigade who attacked them with a will, and in a few minutes drove them back into the North valley.

The Light Brigade was posted under some hillocky ground from whence we could not see into the North valley. A few Cossacks or Dragoons rambled on

to the hillocks, probably to see what was in front of them. The Horse Artillery fired into their faces and they went off. Lord Cardigan asserted then and always, that his orders not to move unless the enemy came up to, or near, the ground where we stood, were imperative. A great chance was thus thrown away. As the Russians defeated by the Heavy Brigade retreated in disorder they left their flanks entirely exposed to us. If Lord Cardigan had launched two of our Regiments on that flank, we should have inflicted a very heavy loss. It was a chance not often I fancy given to Cavalry.

Since an early period of the battle, Lord Raglan and the Headquarters Staff had been on the "Upland", the high plateau on the West, with a steep wall like cliff looking right down the two valleys into and beyond the Russian position. From thence he could see, plainly, all the enemy's forces and what they were doing.

The Cavalry Generals on the low ground beneath could not see them nearly so well. Probably Lord Raglan did not realise this. The order he sent was undoubtedly given by Captain Nolan as if he meant us to attack the 12 guns at the East end of the valley. We had moved over the Causeway and were looking down the valley, dismounted, when Nolan arrived. I saw Lord Lucan's and then Lord Cardigan's evident astonishment at the message; Nolan pointed right down the valley. We were 13th Light Dragoons, 17th Lancers first line; 11th Hussars, 4th Light Dragoons second line; 8th Hussars third line. Directly we advanced Nolan was killed by a shell from a battery on the Fedioukine Heights on our left. His horse swerved round carrying his body through our squadron intervals. The rest of the charge is well known.

Sir Evelyn Wood, in his book, says Captain Nolan rode across the front, pointing with his sword to the forts on the Causeway, which the Turks had abandoned in the morning. I think not. But I have no doubt that Lord Raglan's intentions were that Lord Lucan should, with some part of his Division advance, probably by way of the South valley, wheel over the Causeway and prevent the guns the Turks had left behind from being taken away. This Lord Raglan's A.D.C., Lord Westmorland [*/], subsequently told me. Lord Lucan could then have decided whether he could have gone on to the gorge of the North valley or not.

1. I deduce that the Turks did not behave badly in leaving the so-called "Forts". They lost 170 men in one and got no support from us.
2. That we lost a grand chance in not making a flank attack when the Heavy Brigade had turned the Russians about, and
3. Lastly that the order for the Light Brigade to make a direct advance was mistaken by Captain Nolan. Both Lords Lucan and Cardigan, truthful men, formed the same conception of it. The battle taught the Russians to respect us, for when after Sebastopol was taken, we went to Eupatoria and repeatedly attempted to tempt them, they would never accept battle.

The ground on October 25th was ideal for Cavalry. I was drawn up on, or very near the spot where the guns stood then at the battle of the Tchernaya, August 16th, 1855.

(Editor's Note: The above account of events leading up to the Charge at Balaklava was written shortly afterwards by Lieutenant Colonel Arthur Tremayne, 13th Light Dragoons. At the time of the Charge he was a Captain, Commanding 'E' Troop. His horse was shot from under him during the action, but he managed to rejoin the Regiment afterwards. He retired as a Lieutenant Colonel on 24th May, 1861. We are indebted to his granddaughter, Miss Frances Tremayne, for this account of the battle).

[*] Francis Fane became the 12th Earl of Westmoreland in October, 1859 - which give a date post quem for Tremayne's account.

Tremayne, Arthur (1827-1905) (ex Margrave List)

Capt, 13th Lt Drdns, p.50. b, May 15, 1827, s, John Hearde Tremayne, MP, & Caroline Matilda, d, Sir William Lemon, MP. F/c, Sept 11, 1846; Lt, Oct 29, 1847; Capt, April 4, 1851; Bvt Maj, Dec 12, 1854; Maj, May 31, 1859; Lt Col, Feb 21, 1860.

Cr War, May 15 to June 19, 1856, p.o abrd the Monarchy; June 19 to Aug 31, 1854, Bulgaria; Sept 1 to 14, 1854, to the Cr; Sept 15, 1854 to Nov 1855, Cr; Sept 8, 1855, GO 4, acing as F.O. & to draw FA&F w.e.f July 6, 1855; Oct 1855, to Eupatoria, abrd the "Cambria"; Nov & Dec 1855, to Turkey, abrd the "Jason"; Dec 1855, l/abs (did not rjn the regt in the east); "Soreback Reconn." to the Dobruja Marshes on the Danube, June 1854, M'Kenzie's Farm, the Alma, Balaklava, Siege, pres, the Chernaya, Eupatoria. Rtrd, May 24, 1861. MP, Truro, 1878. m, 1) Sept 22, 1858, Lady Frances, d, John Hely-Hutchinson, 3rd Earl of Donoughmore, HP, PC; 2), 1870, Emma Penelope, d of the Rev Thomas Phillpotts. Res. Carew, Cornwall. d, Nov 14, 1905. ODM: Legn d'Honn, 5 Cl, O. Medj, 5 Cl, Cr Med (ABS), TCM.



